

Draft Minutes of the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Area (2) Committee meeting held on Wednesday 11th April 2007 at 7.00pm in Purton Village Hall, Purton

Present:

Councillor Councillor M.P. Hatton Chairman

Councillors: A.M. Bucknell, H.M. Dixon, G.R. Greenaway, M.E.M. Groom, N.T. Maidment, J.M. Read, P.S. Roberts, S.R. Walls and J. Webb

County, Town and Parish Council Representatives:

Councillor S. Still	Tockenham Parish Council
Councillor C. Wilce	Cricklade Town Council
Councillor B. Atfield	Cricklade Town Council
Councillor V. Stubbings	Broad Town Parish Council

Officers Present: J. Whittleton (Policy & Democratic Services Assistant), I. Whiteway (Partnership Antisocial Behaviour Officer) and S. Parker (Community Partnerships Officer)

CR59. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor H.M. Dixon, Councillor K.A. Dixon, Councillor O.J. Thomas, Councillor C. Wannell, Councillor A.R. Baines, A. Davies, D. Stirling and J. Kashdan Brown.

CR60. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions

A public question was received from Mr M. Bell of Purton Parish Council, who asked that given that seating arrangements had been changed two meetings ago, in order to be more inclusive, why had Councillors chosen to sit according to political party?

Councillor M.P. Hatton thanked Mr Bell for his question and apologised that this had happened.

A public question was received from Councillor C. Wilce of Cricklade Town Council, who stated that it has been three to four years since the Council invested any money on High Street enhancement in Cricklade. He added that the Town Council would like to see works recommenced and completed. He asked if they could be given an indication of when works in Cricklade will recommence.

Councillor M.P. Hatton, responded by stating that Councillor C. Wilce's question would be put to the relevant officer for a response.



Councillor C. Wilce asked a further question. He stated that Area 2 had earmarked funds for the Cricklade War Memorial. Cricklade Town Council have recently discussed a revised design with the Royal British Legion and reached a consensus. He added that the project needs to be progressed in order to ensure funds and that the Town Council hopes to see a redesign and costing soon.

Councillor M.P. Hatton, responded by stating that Councillor C. Wilce's question would be put to the relevant officer for a response.

CR61. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th February 2007 (circulated with the Agenda) were considered.

Resolved that subject to the amendments listed below, the Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record.

Amendments:

- 1) Add the attendance of Councillor V. Stubbings of Broad Town Parish Council.
- 2) Replace Purton Parsih Council with Cricklade Town Council next to Councillor B. Atfield.
- 3) Delete resolution 1, CR48.

Admin Note – The Committee received a brief update from Councillor A.M. Bucknell on action taken to lobby the Secretary of State about Temporary Event Notices. The update related to an action in the Minutes of the meeting held on the 28th February 2007. A copy of the submission is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

CR62. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman, Councillor M.P. Hatton:

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Cricklade & Wootton Bassett Area Committee is scheduled to take place on the 20th June 2007. The venue is yet to be confirmed.

Community Area Funding 2007/08

Can I take this opportunity to remind you all that the deadline for receipts of applications for the Community Awards Scheme is Friday, 4th May if you would like your application to be considered by the Committee on Wednesday, 20th June.

Area 2 Street Scene Enhancements

I am afraid to announce that officers responsible for agenda item 7 – Streetscene Enhancements are unable to attend this evening.

The Chairman, then read out the following statement from the Assets, Design & Regeneration Team Leader

‘Resource availability and other prioritised work within the Assets, Design & Regeneration Team during 2006 have meant that the two above schemes (enhancement of Cricklade War Memorial and Mount Pleasant Retaining Walls in Wootton Bassett) have progressed slowly since December 2005. However, a report has been drafted regarding Cricklade War Memorial which assesses necessary works in more detail and identifies further grant availability. More detailed costings of works are currently being prepared. With regard to the works planned to Mount Pleasant retaining walls in Wootton Bassett, it eventually proved impossible to take advantage of traffic management measures planned by others in implementing the works. Due to New Roads and Streetworks Act constraints over the timing of these works and disruption to the A3102, a lesser scheme of works which reduces the extent of disruption is currently being discussed with the highway authority for potential implementation during Summer 2007.

Regretably due to Easter leave and other staff absences an officer is unable to attend the meeting. A more detailed update should be available for a later Area 2 meeting.’

Thank you from the Chairman

The Chairman thanked Councillors and members of the public for their attendance and support over the last municipal year. He wished everyone success who was standing at the forthcoming elections.

CR63. Declarations of Interest

Councillor M.P. Hatton declared a personal interest in agenda item 7, Area 2 Street-scene Enhancements – Member of the Royal British Legion.

CR64. Neighbourhood Policing and Antisocial Behaviour

The Committee received a presentation from the Council’s Partnership Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Officer on his work.

Issues raised during the presentation included:

- That antisocial behaviour in the District is relatively low compared to national figures;
- Problems caused by groups of youths in Cricklade;
- That identifying culprits and informing their parents is an effective method of curbing antisocial behaviour;
- The importance of dealing with ringleaders;
- That graffiti has become a problem in the area;

- Methods for dealing with graffiti; and
- The importance of community involvement as names are given by people in the area.

Councillors and members of the public were invited to ask questions.

Issues raised during the question and answer session included:

- The importance of restorative justice;
- That proper penalties are needed for persistent offenders;
- That the Police will often refer problems to the Council's Officer;
- That Parish Magazines could be used to make communities aware of the Council's role; and
- That It was hoped newsletter will be produced to encourage people to give information.

Resolved

- 1) That the Police be invited to a future meeting to address points which were not covered.
- 2) That the issue of Leisure provision be placed on the next suitable agenda.

Admin Note – Due to a public order disturbance, representatives from the Police were unable to attend the meeting.

CR65. Area 2 Streetscene Enhancements

Issues discussed included:

- The non attendance of relevant officers;
- That the resolution of the previous Committee meeting has not been carried out;
- That the agenda for committee meetings is supposed to be set by Councillors; and
- Whether officers are acting against the resolution of the Committee.

Resolved

- 1) That consideration of the item be deferred until the next meeting in order for the appropriate officer to attend.
- 2) That an explanation be produced ahead of the next meeting, of why works at Mount Pleasant have not been carried out and why Wootton Bassett Town Council have not been informed.

- 3) That the Committee receives an explanation on why the resolutions from the previous meeting has not been acted upon.
- 4) That the Committee requests that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee looks at the Work Plan of the Asset, Design & Regeneration Team to ascertain whether the Team's priorities are set by Councillors.

CR66. Community Planning Update

The Chairman of the Northern Community Area Partnership gave a verbal update to the Committee on Community Planning Issues.

Issues discussed included:

- That the Partnership had held a meeting of its Care for the Elderly sub-group on 7th March;
- That at its meeting on 27th March, the Partnership received an update on the PCT, on future policing arrangements in the area and about the current status of the Lime Kiln and Cricklade Leisure Centres;
- That the Partnership had been invited to attend the rural buffer section of the Regional Spatial Strategy examination; and
- The attendance of a representative from Wootton Bassett Town Council at NCAP meetings. Councillor C. Wilce asked Councillor P.S. Roberts to encourage attendance from Wootton Bassett Town Council.

CR67. Parish Council Update

The purpose of the item is to allow Parish and Town Council representatives to update the Committee on any issues in their locality.

Issues discussed included:

- That Cricklade has entered the Britain in Bloom competition;
- Public conveniences in Area 2; and
- That changes are underway in the community meal service for elderly people, which could result in the loss of the social element of the meals on wheels service.

Resolved

- 1) That the Committee be informed when the public conveniences in Cricklade will open.
- 2) That the Councils' Partnership Antisocial Behaviour Reduction Officer be informed of the constant vandalism of toilets in Cricklade.

- 3) That officers be asked why one set of public conveniences in Wootton Bassett were closed for maintenance just after the other set were permanently closed.
- 4) That a letter be sent, on behalf of the Committee, to Wiltshire County Council, asking for clarification of the changes and when people will be consulted.

CR69. Spatial Planning Update

The Lead Member for Local Planning gave a verbal update on Spatial Planning issues.

Issues raised included:

- That the Local Development Scheme had been approved by the Government Office of the South West;
- The Local Development Framework Core Strategy will be published after the election;
- The Regional Spatial Strategy examination is about to begin; and
- Work into affordable housing and the West of Swindon Development Plan Document.

CR70. Outside Bodies

Issues discussed included:

- That a Master Plan is being developed to cover the entire Cotswold Water Park;
- The Cricklade Country Way Lottery application and the possibility of compulsory purchase;
- There will be a Forest Festival on the 19th May 2007, which will include the opening of the Jubilee Lake project; and
- That a large scale exercise will take place at RAF Fairford in September and the Airshow will take place in July.

The meeting finished at 8.20pm

There were 9 members of the public present.