

**These minutes will be presented to the next meeting on 2 February 2006 for approval as a correct record**

## **WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the: **WESTBURY AREA SEMINAR**

Held on: **THURSDAY 26 JULY 2005**

Held in: **THE LAVERTON, WESTBURY**

Present:

District Council Representatives: J Clegg (Chairman), M Clegg, Conley, Hawker, Manasseh, Swabey \* (part)

County Council Representatives: De Rhe-Philipe (part), Newbury and district member listed above with an asterisk

Town Council Representative: Prickett

Parish Council Representatives: Miller - Bratton  
Morland - Dilton Marsh  
Sexstone - Heywood

Community Area Partnership Representative:

Parish Cluster Representative:

Also in attendance: Roger Drummond – Mouchelparkman (part)  
Hannah Whitworth – Warminster and Westbury Standard (part)

Officers: Sue Bellamy - Community Development Officer  
Karol Jakubczyk – Senior Planning Policy Officer (part)  
Melanie Stimpson – Member Support Officer

#### **28 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Conley, who would be arriving late, and Reverend Paul Richardson.

Following the County Council Elections on 5 May 2005 the following members had been appointed County Council representatives of Westbury Area Seminar: - De Rhe-Philipe, Newbury and Swabey.

#### **29 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2005/2006**

The Member Support Officer called for nominations for the position of Chairman of Westbury Area Seminar.

Councillor J Clegg was proposed by Councillor Hawker and seconded by Councillor Swabey

There being no other nominations and on being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED: That Councillor J Clegg be elected as Chairman of Westbury Area Seminar for 2005/06**

### **30 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of Westbury Area Seminar.

Councillor Hawker was proposed by Councillor M Clegg

Clarification was sought on who may be elected as Chairman or nominated as Vice Chairman. Members were informed that the Constitution did not stipulate, therefore any district, county, town or parish councillor could be the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

Councillor Prickett was proposed Councillor Hawker

A comment was made that it would be better to have a non Westbury Town Councillor as a Vice Chairman and both Cllr Hawker and Prickett withdrew standing for Vice Chair.

Councillor Sexstone was then proposed by Councillor Manasseh and seconded by Councillor Prickett

There being no other nominations and on being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED: That Councillor Sexstone be appointed as Vice Chairman of Westbury Area Seminar for 2005/06.**

### **31 MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 28 April 2005 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. However Cllr Sexstone expressed his disappointment that his apology was not recorded, but did not wish for the minutes to be amended.

### **32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Hawker declared a personal interest in the Town Centre Traffic Project as he was the Chairman of the Town Centre Viability Group and also declared an interest in the Westbury Bypass.

Cllr Morland declared a personal interest in Westbury Bypass, as he was a member of Westbury Bypass Action Group.

### **33 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman apologised for the change in meeting dates and hoped that members had been made aware of the change of date.

Should members feel unhappy about any aspect of the meeting the Chairman encouraged them to speak either during or after the meeting.

On behalf of Cllr Cox-Maidment the Chairman proposed the establishment of a conservation area in Mill Lane, Westbury Leigh. The proposal had been raised at the Area Seminar as last autumn the District Council had requested proposals for new conservation areas. Cllr Cox-Maidment had recently approached the District Council regarding the establishment of a conservation area in Mill Lane but was told that the District Council had no plans to establish further conservation areas at present. The Chairman asked members to inform him if there were other conservation areas that they wished to see established and that he would take this matter further and discuss it with Cllr Cox-Maidment and officers.

As there were a large number of listed buildings in Westbury Leigh some felt that the whole of Westbury Leigh should become a conservation area.

Reasons for Mill Lane to specifically be mentioned as conservation area was due to the threat of possible planning developments in Mill Lane and that the original Mill, that the road was named after, was still in existence. The lane is also very quiet and must be protected from vehicular traffic.

#### **34 APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE FOR WESTBURY AREA ACTION GROUP**

The Chairman called for nominations for a representative for Westbury Area Action Group.

Councillor Swabey was proposed by Councillor Hawker and seconded by Councillor Prickett.

There being no other nominations and on being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED: That Councillor Swabey be appointed as Westbury Area Action Group Representative for 2005/06**

#### **35 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

##### **Westbury Youth and Community Services Committee**

On behalf of Cllr Hawker, Cllr Manesseh reported that the Centre was trying to obtain some financial information from a computer that had crashed, which was proving difficult. The children who attend the Centre recently took part in a performance which was very well attended, but disappointingly only one councillor attended to show support.

##### **Westbury CCTV Partnership**

Cllr Manasseh reported that there had been one meeting regarding staff issues, such as, wages, which he was unable to discuss.

##### **Historic Buildings Joint Committee and Westbury Landfill Liaison Group**

No meetings had been held.

Cllr Swabey expressed her disappointed at being removed as district representative of the Lafarge Liaison Committee and felt it was a political manoeuvre. As local member it was felt that Cllr Swabey was more suitable to be the representative and she was concerned that the local people would not be adequately represented.

Cllr Prickett supported Cllr Swabey and felt it a political manoeuvre. Local knowledge was required for the position and urged the Seminar to try to get the representative changed.

In support of Cllr Hames Cllr Newbury felt that there was a large number of local members for this committee. Cllr Hames was a very capable member and had developed a keen interest and knowledge in the topic.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. **The following appointments to outside bodies be noted:**

<b>Historic Buildings Joint Committees – Warminster and Westbury</b>	<b>Davis Manasseh Newbury (Deputy) Syme (Deputy)</b>
<b>Lafarge Liaison Committee</b>	<b>Hames</b>
<b>Westbury CCTV Partnership</b>	<b>Manasseh</b>
<b>Westbury Landfill Liaison Group</b>	<b>Manasseh</b>
<b>Westbury Area Action Group (WAAG)</b>	<b>Swabey</b>
<b>Youth and Community Services Committee – Westbury</b>	<b>Hawker</b>

- ii. **The Chairman of the Westbury Area Seminar approach the Leader to discuss and express the dissatisfaction of members regarding the representative of Lafarge Liaison Committee.**

**36 TOWN CENTRE TRAFFIC PROJECT**

Roger Drummond of Mouchelparkman gave a verbal presentation to members and explained that Mouchelparkman have been employed by Wiltshire County Council to develop proposals for the Town Centre, as part of the Local Transport Plans, based upon the Vision for Westbury and Westbury Area Action Plan. The aim is to improve accessibility/safety and regenerate the Town. Mouchelparkman delivered their first presentation at a WAAG open meeting in May, which most people present at the seminar had attended.

Mouchelparkman conducted a telephone survey to 500 people, 300 of which were within the Westbury Town and the other 200 were with the outlining parishes to confirm previous consultation outcomes. A summary of the findings from the telephone survey were as follows:

- The majority of visitors come to Westbury by car and a further 15% walk into Westbury from the outskirts of Town
- 44% travel into Westbury everyday
- 55% travel into Westbury once a week
- The main reason people travel to Westbury is to drive through it to get to somewhere else
- When those surveyed were asked to identify the main traffic problems 87% stated it was the loading and the unloading in the town centre. 78% said there was too much traffic in the High St and Market Place
- The majority surveyed also said that they wanted to see more parking
- 46% believed that there was not enough cycling facilities
- The older age groups surveyed felt there was insufficient disabled parking facilities. However the younger age groups survey felt there was sufficient disabled parking facilities.
- The greatest dissatisfaction amongst those surveyed was the appearance of Westbury Town, poor maintenance and that attractive buildings were not enhanced.
- Great support was shown for generating opportunities and increasing the mix of retail outlets
- 90% wanted more pedestrian crossings

Some members questioned whether there was commitment to implement plans. Cllr De Rhe-Philipe emphasised that the County Council wanted things to happen. As the proposals develop, Roger Drummond will keep the Community up to date through Westbury Area Action Group.

### **37 STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Karol Jakubczyk, Senior Planning Policy Officer gave a presentation to members regarding the draft statement of community involvement and explained that it was an opportunity for members to offer input.

It was explained that the statement of community involvement was a clear public statement setting out how the community will be involved in the preparation of Local Development Documents and consultation on planning applications.

The aims of the Local Development Framework were explained and that it was a replacement for structure and local plans. The presentational slides are attached to these minutes.

Members were not encouraged by the Regional Spatial Strategy and did not believe nor support it. Questions were raised as to why the District Plan had not been published. It was explained that the document had gone out to tender

including a web based interactive browser. A written statement was available now and the web based copy would hopefully be ready for September. However due to the technical failure of equipment it was unknown when a hardcopy would be available.

### **38 UPDATES**

At the previous Westbury Area Seminar meetings held on 16 February and 28 April 2005 issues were raised on the publication of the location of Household Recycling Centre and the flytipping hotline, the location of a new Household Recycling Centre in Westbury and the enforcement of alcohol free zones in Westbury.

The Chairman presented a report updating members on the publication of the location of Household Recycling Centre and the flytipping hotline and the location of a new Household Recycling Centre in Westbury. The Chairman also read a statement from Simon Best, Legal and Democratic Services Manager regarding the progress of the alcohol exclusion zone and the reason for the initial delay in dealing with the matter.

There were confusions on the actual locations of the proposed alcohol exclusion zones and the reason why Leigh Park had since been omitted from the proposed alcohol exclusion zones.

Members were informed that questions should be directed to Mike Hawkings, Les Fry or Simon Best and that Simon Best would be attending the Westbury Town Council meeting to discuss this issue on Monday 1 August 2005.

### **39 UPDATE ON PARISH CLUSTERS**

Sue Bellamy informed the members that the last Parish Cluster meeting was held at Bratton in March 2005. Unfortunately it was not well attended with only 4 people. Parish Cluster meetings will only be successful if Parish Councils want them to happen, and have someone willing to take the lead. A Councillor from Dilton Marsh has agreed to host the next Parish Cluster meeting. The District Council will continue to offer support with the costs and administration, through WAAG.

#### **Other Areas**

Trowbridge Parishes hold a Parish Liaison meeting quarterly. Melksham have a parish cluster meeting via the Community Area Partnership meetings (Melksham 1<sup>st</sup>). The majority of Bradford on Avon Parishes would like a Parish Cluster meeting. Parishes in the Warminster area do not feel the need to meet regularly, but have got together in the past when they felt the need arise and prefer to continue in this vein.

Concern was raised when Cllr Miller informed the committee that he was unaware of the last Parish Cluster meeting. However it was confirmed that all Parish Clerks were sufficiently informed prior to the meeting.

### **40 ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE REFERRAL TO CABINET**

There were no items which required referral to Cabinet.

**41 MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

- Westbury Leigh Conservation Area
- Proposals from the Town Centre Traffic Project, including informed ideas and initial costings. (Members were reminded that these proposals would be presented to WAAG before the Westbury Area Seminar next meets and members were encouraged to attend the meeting)

**42 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Westbury Area Seminar meeting is 2 February 2006 at 7pm in the Laverton Hall, Westbury

(7.00pm – 9.15pm)