

WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the: **WESTBURY AREA SEMINAR**

Held on: **WEDNESDAY 24 January 2007**

Held in: **THE LAVERTON, WESTBURY**

Present:

District Council Representatives: Cllrs J Clegg (Chairman), M Clegg, Swabey and Hawker

County Council Representatives: Cllr De Re Philipe and Newbury

Town Council Representative:

Parish Council Representatives: Cllrs Morland - Dilton Marsh
Peter Sexstone - Heywood

Community Area Partnership Representative:

Parish Cluster Representative:

Also in attendance: Caroline Los – Westbury Area Health Forum

Officers: Jacky Nicholas - Community Development Officer
Kevin Fielding – Democratic Support Officers

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Conley and Reverend Paul Richardson.

2. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 5 July 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman requested that it be put on the record his thanks to both Sue Bellamy (WWDC Community Support Officer) and Mel Stimpson (WWDC Member Support Officer) for the support they had both given the Westbury Area Seminar, they have now both departed West Wilts District Council for pastures new.

The Chairman also made the following points:

- Change of name for the meeting - that the name Seminar sets the wrong ethos. The Chairman felt that the meeting would be best described as a forum – a place where all Councillors representing the area could sit and discuss matters of interest to them individually and as a community.
- Poor attendance of members and public at meetings – that it was difficult to expect members, officers and guest speakers to speak at the Seminar when the turnout was expected to be poor.
- Communication – that a notice of meeting should be issued to Town & Parish representatives as well as council clerks etc, four to six weeks prior to the meeting.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAMS UPDATE

Chief Inspector Ian Copus (Wiltshire Constabulary) gave a short update on community policing in the Westbury area and introduced Sargeant Jim Stallard of Westbury Police and Nick Holt a community beat manager covering the Westbury area.

6. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Caroline Los – Westbury Area Health Forum advised the Seminar on the news that Westbury Community Hospital appeared to be saved from the recent cuts that form part of the Wiltshire PCT's "Options for Change" proposals.

7. UPDATES

Brook Lane MBT Plant

Hills unveiled their plans for the new plant last Friday (12 January) at the Laverton Hall.

The company have stated that only when the community have had an opportunity to comment on the plans will the company move to submit a planning application.

In addition to the mechanical biological treatment plant, the proposals for the site on the Northacre Industrial Park will include a long-awaited household recycling centre for the town.

Waste Collection Contract

The contract for waste collection has been let to Focsa Services (uk) limited tenders were invited from seven contractors on 14 September and six were returned on 14 November 2006. The new contract has a Commencement Date of 1 April 2007.

West Wilts District Council has already discussed mobilisation with the contractor and are looking forward to working with them to provide a first class waste collection service.

Westbury Leigh Conservation

West Wilts District Council are Currently engaging in Conservation reviews as part of the Consultative Strategy.

The Planning Policy & Conservation team are currently undertaking character assessments of the Trowbridge, Warminster and Bradford on Avon Conservation areas.

It is envisaged that Warminster will be completed by April/May 2007, but that the time table is subject to a new Conservation Assistant being appointed to help cover this workload.

The review of the Westbury Conservation area is likely to begin around the autumn of 2007.

Conservation Officer Caroline Power can be contacted at West Wilts District Council should further information be required.

8. WHITEHORSE AREA ACTION GROUP (WAAG) UPDATE

A WAAG update report, prepared by Reverend Paul Richardson, was distributed to all members of the Seminar at the meeting and is attached to these minutes.

9. ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE REFERAL TO CABINET

That Westbury Area Seminar proposed an amendment to the Constitution to allow the Vice Chairman of any Area Seminar to be a non District Council Member – this topic will go to the 1 February Standards committee meeting.

10. MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The Chairman encouraged members to come forward with items for future agendas and would be encouraging officers to use the Seminars as a means of communication.

- Frequency of meeting – that the Seminar believes meetings should be more frequent.
- An update of the meeting of Seminar Chairs.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Westbury Area Seminar meeting had been provisionally arranged for July 2007 at the Laverton in Westbury at 7pm.

(7.00pm – 8.35pm)

These minutes were prepared by Kevin Fielding Democratic Support Officer who can be contacted on direct line 01225 770322 or email kfielding@westwiltshire.gov.uk