

## WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Minutes of the: **BRADFORD ON AVON AREA SEMINAR**

Held on: **24 July 2008**

Held in: **ST MARGARET'S HALL  
BRADFORD ON AVON**

Present

West Wiltshire District Councillors: Cllrs Rosemary Brown (Chairman), Isabel Martindale, and Carolyn Walker

County Councillors: Cllr Malcolm Hewson

Bradford on Avon Town Councillor: **(name unknown)**

Parish Councillors: Cllrs John Allison, Jane Grant, Adrian Kennedy, and Allan Spreadbury

Parish Liaison Group Rep:

Community Area Partnership Rep: David Gregory

Also in attendance: Cllr Richard Wiltshire (WWDC)  
Phil Morgan (WCC)

Officers: Jacky Nicholas, Community Development Officer  
Sean Semple, Member Support Officer

#### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bolwell and Repton.

#### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Brown and Hewson declared personal and prejudicial interests with regard to Bradford-on-Avon golf course; Cllr Martindale declared a personal interest.

#### 3. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

There were none.

## **5. OPEN FORUM**

### **Cllr Walker in the Chair**

Mr Geoff Poole said that there was widespread opposition of a plan to build many houses on land next to Bradford-on-Avon golf course, and a petition of 1,700 signatures had been collected.

### **Cllr Brown in the Chair**

Mr Jon Wright deplored the absence of a residents' parking scheme especially now that civil parking enforcement (CPE) had come into effect. Residents' protests had been ignored by both the District and the County Councils.

Mrs Rita Shotton said that that Secretary of State should be challenged over CPE, which was a way of making money out of residents and had no effect on either traffic management or road safety.

Mr Richard Tranter said the Cabinet of the District Council had stated that a residents' parking scheme would come in at the same time as CPE, but this had not happened. In addition, CPE had increased dangers on the roads.

Mr John Waite said that no consultations had taken place with residents prior to CPE, and that residents in affected areas have to move their cars every hour during the daytime.

Cllr Brown responded that the District Council through CPE was now enforcing yellow-line restrictions that had long been in place. However, it is recognised that the sign posting of parking restrictions needed clarification and this is now being addressed. Cllr Brown invited people to write to her with any suggestions on improving matters.

Cllr Hewson said that the introduction of CPE had been a mistake, parking in certain streets had been further restricted by planning decisions, and that a residents parking scheme had been requested for years.

Cllr Wiltshire (a member of the District Council's Cabinet) responded to some of the points raised. In particular the police had failed to enforce parking restrictions which CPE was now addressing. Some problems may be resolved by revising traffic orders and making sure that yellow-lining was appropriate.

## **6. OUTCOME OF ITEMS REFERRED TO CABINET**

No items had been referred to Cabinet.

## **7. UPDATES FROM THE LAST BRADFORD ON AVON AREA SEMINAR**

There were none.

## **8. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Brown reported on the current programme of the Youth Centre:

Monday – Girls' Night (6.45 – 9.15pm);

Tuesday – Drop-In (7.00 – 9.30pm);

Wednesday – School-based Youth Work at St Lawrence School (12.00 – 1.45), Holt Youth Club (7.00 – 9.00pm), Street-based Youth Work at Monkton Farleigh (6.45 – 9.00pm);

Thursday – Project Night (currently boxing at the Trowbridge Academy).

## **9. COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP THEME GROUPS UPDATE**

### Countryside and Land Based Issues:

Cllr Walker reported that some parish councils are interested in involvement in emergency planning.

### Culture, Leisure and Sport

Cllr Martindale reported that the 'i-play' in Bearfields recreation ground has proved to be very popular.

There have been insurance problems in organising 'trim trail' for seniors, and funding is still being sought.

### Traffic and Transport

Cllr Martindale reported that there have been improvements to the punctuality of local bus services, but there is a need to encourage greater use.

The monitoring of the number of lorries with 3 axels crossing the town bridge is continuing.

Bradford-on-Avon roads have not been resurfaced because of the lack of skidding incidents.

Many pavements in the town (e.g. in Trowbridge Road) are also in a poor state of repair.

Potholes in the roads need to be of a certain depth before the County Council will undertake to fill them in. However, the County Council can be liable if an accident is caused by a pothole.

## **10. COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

David Gregory reminded the meeting that the Community Area includes the villages surrounding Bradford-on-Avon, not just the town itself.

The local food initiative – aimed at providing locally produced food for local people – has established a website at

<http://www.bradfordonavon.com/localfood/>

The CAP exists to encourage the work of organisations supporting the environmental, social, cultural, and economic life of people in the Bradford-on-Avon area, including the traffic issue. The CAP also helps the District Council to administer the small grants scheme. With the establishment of the Wiltshire unitary authority in 2009, the CAP may become more significant.

## 11. SMALL GRANTS AWARDED

Jacky Nicholas (Community Development Officer), reported that only £250 has been issued as Small Grants this year to groups within the Bradford-on-Avon area. Local groups seeking grants should contact Meril Morgan at WWDC on 01225 776655 ext 235, email [mmorgan@westwiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:mmorgan@westwiltshire.gov.uk)

Grants of up to £400 are available, although the norm awarded is approximately £250.

Grants have already been awarded as follows:

Organisation/Group Applying	Brief Description of Application	Date of Application	Amount of Application	Amount Granted
BoA & District French Twining Association	subsidise 2 yp aged 13 and 15 to visit Sully Sur Loire	21/04/2008	£200.00	Nil
Castle Gardens pre-school	purchase of colour printer, new & replacement books & other equipment	27/04/2008	£360.00	£250.00
Stepping Stones				
Bradford on Avon Lions Club	contribution to their own charitable trust fund		£1,500.00	Nil
			<b>£2,060.00</b>	<b>£250.00</b>

## 12. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S UPDATE

Jacky Nicholas reminded members that as a Community Development Officer, she is here to support their community leadership role.

## 13. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAMS UPDATE

Phil Morgan (Wiltshire County Council) reported that the community safety group has been very successful with attendance from town and parish councils, schools, youth centres and police.

Three particular issues have been identified:

- a) anti-social behaviour affecting residents of the Poulton estate;
- b) speeding in Trowbridge Road;
- c) breaches of the weight restrictions on the town bridge.

The next meeting of the group will be in September 2008.

## 14. UPDATE ON BRADFORD-ON-AVON HOSPITAL SITE

John Cottle (Bradford-on-Avon Community Health) reported that the plans passed by the Town Council are awaiting approval by the District Council. The scheme was amended after consultation and the proposal is now for only 11 houses to be built on the site.

## **15. MOVEMENT AND PUBLIC SPACE UPDATE**

Gerald Milward-Oliver (Bradford-on-Avon Economic Development Working Group) reported on the Movement and Public Space Workshop established to improve the streetscape and manage the traffic flow in Bradford-on-Avon.

The Workshop's plans have been endorsed by the Town Council and the Community Area Partnership Board. Funding has been secured from the County Council, the District Council, the Town Council, Limpley Stoke Parish Council, and the Community Area Partnership Board. The other parish councils in the area have also been invited to participate.

A public consultation will begin in September which will inform the Workshop. The aim is to report back to the community by December 2008.

## **16. UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION**

Phil Morgan (Wiltshire County Council) reminded the meeting that the Wiltshire unitary authority will be established in April 2009.

Community Area Boards will act as the voice of local people in each area and will be formal bodies of unitary councillors (including a cabinet member), together with town and parish councillors. There are 12 pilot Community Area Boards in operation now throughout the county, including Trowbridge and Warminster. Each Board will be allocated approximately £50,000 for local priorities. Relevant unitary authority officers will be required to report to the Boards and also to service them as committee clerks.

Cllr Walker said that the District Council representatives on the task group dealing with the Community Area Boards are concerned that representatives of the Primary Care Trust and also officers of the unitary authority will not always be able to attend Board meetings, and that budgets for the Boards have yet to be decided on.

## **17. ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE REFERRAL TO CABINET**

There were none.

## **18. MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

It was agreed that parking and swimming for senior citizens should be included in the agenda for the next meeting.

## **19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 5 February 2009 at St. Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon at 7pm.

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**(Duration of meeting held on 24 July 2008: 7.00 – 8.40pm)**

These minutes were prepared by Sean Semple, Member Support Officer, who can be contacted on 01225 776655 ext 204, email: [ssemple@westwiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:ssemple@westwiltshire.gov.uk)