

ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a MEETING held at COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE on 1ST NOVEMBER, 2000.

PRESENT: Mr JP Johnson (Chairman), Mrs M Boulton, Mr TP Chivers, Miss MF de Rhé Philipe, Mr GJM Downes, Mr CP Humphries, Mr JNB Irving, Mrs JBP Savage, Mrs JH Seager, Mr TR Sturgis, Mr JE Syme and Mr IC West.

Mr PG Allnatt, Mr BE Atfield, Mr PR Davis, Mrs MEM Groom and Mrs P Rugg also attended the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 26.

Minute No. 96(2) is not within this Committee's delegated powers and has been referred to the County Council.

86. **Membership Changes** The Director of Corporate Services reported the membership of the Committee incorporating any changes since the previous meeting.

87. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 5th July, 2000.

88. **Chairman's Announcements**

(1) **A36/A46 De-Trunking** The Chairman announced that the Government Office for the South West study of the A36/A46 was now complete and would inform the Minister's decision on the future status of the A36/A46 route, likely to be announced around the time of the Local Transport Plan settlement in December.

(2) **Junction 16 Park and Ride Planning Application** The Chairman informed members that the Director wrote to Swindon Borough Council requesting that they put into abeyance their appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the Park and Ride site. However, the Borough Council declined this request and the Public Inquiry into this appeal would take place in the first two weeks of December at which the County Council had been requested to give evidence.

(3) **Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Local Plan** The Chairman informed the Committee that the Inspector's Report into objections to the Wiltshire and Swindon Local Plan was received on 19th October, 2000, and would be the subject of an item to the February or March 2001 meeting of this Committee.

- (4) Local Transport Plan The Chairman announced that last week he attended a meeting with Mr Keith Hill MP, the Under Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, Transport in the Regions, to discuss the County Council's Local Transport Plan submission. Local authorities are waiting for the Government's decision at the end of December.
- (5) Environment & Transport Committee Meeting – 13th December 2000 The Chairman drew members attention to the clash between the County Council's Carol Service being on the same day as the next meeting of this Committee. However he asked that the meeting start at the usual time of 10.30am and aim to finish by 12.30pm, with the Carol Service at 1.00pm.
- (6) Mr B Davies – County Controller – Radio Amateurs Network (RAYNET) The Chairman announced the retirement of Mr Davies as County Controller of RAYNET and presented him with a gift in recognition of his invaluable service for many years. The Chairman supported by other members of the Committee wished Mr and Mrs Davies well for the future. Mr Davies replied to the kind remarks made.

89. **Public Participation**

- (1) Mrs C Spikernell, on behalf of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) asked a question in relation to the Structure Plan to which the Chairman replied.
- (2) Mr TM King, Chairman of the Front Garden Action Group Swindon asked a question in relation to the Structure Plan to which the Chairman indicated his question would be answered during the debate on this item. (Minute No. 96 refers).

90. **Six Month Monitoring of Targets 1st April – 30th September, 2000 and 1999-2000 Citizen's Charter Performance Indicator Results** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services, the information also being included in the County Council's Best Value Performance Plan 2000-01,

Resolved:

- (1) *To note the report.*
- (2) *To use the information in the report to inform consideration of budgets in 2001-02.*

91. **Revenue Budget Statement for September 2000** On receiving a report by the Director of Environmental Services,

Resolved: *To note the report.*

92. **Capital Monitoring Statement for September 2000** On receiving a report by the Director of Environmental Services,

Resolved: To note the report.

93. **Capital Programme 2000-2001** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services advising the Committee of two additional Supplementary Credit Approvals,

Resolved: To approve the following additions to the 2000-2001 Capital Programme:

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|-----|--|----------------|
| (1) | <i>Safe Routes to School</i> | <i>£99,000</i> |
| (2) | <i>Public Transport Information System</i> | <i>£67,000</i> |

94. **Request for an Item Under Standing Order 15.2 from Mrs MEM Groom: Proposed Wootton Bassett Railway Station** (Min.No.77(iii)/00) On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services and on hearing from Mrs MEM Groom,

Resolved:

- (1) *To request the Director of Environmental Services to work with Railtrack, potential train operators and North Wiltshire District Council to identify and examine possible locations for a railway station at Wootton Bassett. This work should take account of Railtrack's proposals for a grade separated junction at Wootton Bassett.*
- (2) *To consider a bid for £20,000 in the 2001-2002 corporate capital programme as a contribution to fund the necessary studies.*

95. **North Wiltshire District Council's Draft Economic Development and Tourism Strategy for 2000-2001** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services seeking endorsement of the County Council's response to the consultation on the draft strategy,

Resolved: To endorse points made in the Director's report together with those in the report's Appendix.

96. **Wiltshire Structure Plan 2011** The Committee considered a report by the Director of Environmental Services presenting the composite Structure Plan document for approval prior to adoption by the County Council, and received a letter from Mrs C Spickernell dated 28th October, 2000 on behalf of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE).

The Chairman moved the recommendations in the report.

Mr Irving moved and Mr JE Syme seconded the following amendment:

To agree the recommendations in the report, subject to the amendment of DP9, DP10 and DP13 to read:

- (a) DP9 - A sequential approach to the release of sites for development will be adopted. Thus, within or adjoining settlements, suitable previously used land should be re-used in preference to the use of undeveloped land.

In the open countryside the appropriate re-use of previously developed land and buildings should be encouraged.

- (b) DP10 - At Swindon, previously developed land and buildings and the Northern Development area, will initially be the main locations for the development of new housing, employment land, associated shopping and services. Only when these have been substantially completed will any further greenfield land be released.

- (c) DP13 - A rural buffer should be maintained to protect the separate identities of the following towns and villages and prevent their coalescence with Swindon:

Broad Blunsdon	Purton
Chiseldon	South Marston
Cricklade	Stanton Fitzwarren
Highworth	Wanborough
Hook	Wootton Bassett
Liddington	Wroughton
Lydiard Millicent	

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost. Mrs M Boulton, Mr TP Chivers, Mr JNB Irving, Mr JE Syme and Mr IC West asked for their votes in favour of the amendment to be recorded.

On the substantive motion being put to the meeting it was,

Resolved:

- (1) *To agree the recommendations of the Joint Structure Plan Working Party, namely the Authorities' Response to the Representations on the Further Proposed Modifications, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, together with minor amendments as contained in paragraph 7 to the report.*
- (2) *To recommend the County Council at its meeting on 21st November, 2000 to adopt the Wiltshire Structure Plan – 2011, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.*

97. **Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Local Plan 2011: Revision of Indicative Time Table** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services,

Resolved: To approve the revised indicative timetable as set out at Appendix B of the report attached to Appendix 1 of the Director's report for the preparation of the Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Local Plan 2011, whereby the first Deposit Draft would be published in September, 2001 and the Adopted Plan in February, 2004.

98. **Consultation on The Deposit Draft Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services,

Resolved: To advise Gloucestershire County Council that:

- (i) The aims, objectives and strategy of the Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan Deposit Draft appear to represent a realistic and pragmatic interpretation of European and National policy and are supported.
- (ii) An objection is raised to Chapter 3 of the Plan in that there is insufficient explanation and justification provided for the requirements for waste management facilities set out in the Plan. Further clarification is sought on the methodology used and the way in which the National targets have been interpreted.
- (iii) The allocation of the site at Sharpness Docks and its potential for a regional facility is noted. However the Plan should make it clear that this should be examined in detail through the appropriate regional bodies and with all adjoining Waste Planning and Waste Disposal Authorities.
- (iv) An objection is raised to Policy 2 and its accompanying text in that it fails to make reference to the importance of inter-authority partnerships in dealing with the issue of cross boundary flows of waste.
- (v) An objection is raised to Policies 4 and 5 in that no waste management facility provision is proposed in the south-south eastern part of the County. Given that there appears to be little existing provision in this area there is a real prospect of pressure being placed on waste facilities in North Wiltshire. The Plan should either make provision for waste facilities in this area or demonstrate that this lack of provision will not run counter to the proximity principle or the Best Practicable Environmental Option by encouraging unsustainable journeys into Wiltshire.
- (vi) Support be given to Policies 35 and 44 and their respective initiatives for encouraging waste minimisation in new developments and as part of a range of planning obligations to mitigate against the impacts of waste and waste development. Clarification is sought as to why Consultation Draft Policy 28 – Waste Minimisation was not progressed into the Deposit Draft.

99. **Replacement Kennet District Local Plan First Deposit - July 2000** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services and on receiving a letter dated 31st October from Mr M Connolly as a local member,

Resolved:

- (1) *To inform Kennet District Council that the County Council generally supports the Replacement Kennet District Local Plan First Deposit July 2000, but raises the specific objections listed in paragraph 19(a) – (v) of the Director's report subject to adding the following words to objection (i) relating to car parking in Devizes as follows:*

'particularly in view of the proposed loss of 59 spaces in the market square.'

- (2) *To send copies of this report to Swindon Borough Council and the Government Office for the South West.*

100. **West Wiltshire District Plan First Alteration – General Conformity of Revised Deposit - November 2000** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services,

Resolved:

- (1) *To inform West Wiltshire District Council that Wiltshire County Council considers the Revised Deposit Draft of the West Wiltshire District Plan (November 2000) to be in general conformity with the Draft Wiltshire Structure Plan 2011, as proposed for adoption (November, 2000).*

- (2) *To send copies of the Director's report to Swindon Borough Council and the Government Office for the South West.*

101. **Review of Section 278 Works by Developers** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services and on receiving a letter dated 31st October from Mr M Connolly as local member for Tidworth,

Resolved:

- (1) *To authorise the Solicitor to the Council, in consultation with the Director of Environmental Services, to require where appropriate, from 1st October, 2000, agreements under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 wherever developers intend to undertake works in the highway, such agreements always to cover work on traffic sensitive streets as defined under the provisions of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991.*

- (2) *To agree that the Director of Environmental Services monitors the new form of agreement in operation, to ensure that developers are not unreasonably disadvantaged through any additional costs or delays that might arise.*

102. **The Provision of Highways Related Professional and Works Services** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services including supplementary information giving facts and figures for 1998/99,

Resolved:

- (1) *To note the Ringway Parkman Annual Review of Service Report, 1999-2000; and,*
- (2) *To express the Committee's thanks to the staff of Ringway Parkman for their work during the recent severe weather and generally over the past year.*
- (3) *To ask that future reports include comparative figures regarding performance in previous years and to be aware of the concerns of members in respect of staff morale, up to date information on works in progress being displayed for the public, blocked drains and weed treatments.*

103. **Best Value Review and the Municipal Waste Strategy** On considering a report by the Director of Environmental Services together with a report approved by the Policy & Resources and Environment & Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee on 27th October, 2000,

Resolved:

- (1) *To note the current Waste Management Services Profile.*
- (2) *To agree the scope of the Waste Management Best Value Services Review.*
- (3) *To proceed with the review as planned.*
- (4) *To accelerate this process at the members' request and ask that a report be brought before this Committee evaluating all the possible means of minimising collectable household and commercial waste, notwithstanding their cost, in the New Year.*

104. **Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC): 'Planning the Way Ahead' Conference** On receiving an invitation to attend this one day conference at the Corn Exchange, Devizes on Saturday, 4th November 2000,

Resolved: *To agree that Mrs MF de Rhé Philipe, Mrs M Boulton and one Labour member attend the conference and agree that it be an approved duty for the purposes of attendance, travelling and subsistence allowances for members.*

105. **Reports of Sub-Committees** To receive the minutes of the following Sub-Committees:

- (1) Environmental Services Sub-Committee

Resolved: *To receive the minutes of the Sub-Committee meetings held on 19th July, 6th September and 4th October, 2000.*

Arising from the meeting of 4th October,

Everleigh: The Street On considering a recommendation to include the proposed measures to deal with the flooding of The Street, Everleigh in the Committee's Capital Programme bid for 2001-2002.

Resolved: *To approve the recommendation.*

(2) Emergency Sub Committee

Resolved: *To receive the minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 13th July, 2000 (attached as an appendix to these minutes for receipt at the County Council's meeting on 21st November, 2000).*

(3) Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Resolved: *To receive the minutes of the Sub-Committee meetings held on 28th July and 20th September, 2000.*

106. **Urgent Items** The Chairman is of the opinion that the following item had arisen after the agenda was prepared and needed to be considered before the next meeting.

Great Western Commerce and Enterprise (GWCE) – Operating Plan 2001-02 On considering a proposal that the Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Opposition Group Spokesmen of the Environment & Transport Committee and Environmental Services Sub-Committee, along with the County Council's member on GWCE, meet with representatives of GWCE to discuss the preliminary content of next year's operating plan,

Resolved:

- (1) *To authorise holding the meeting on Wednesday 6th December, 2000 at 2.00pm (E&T briefing to follow on the rising) for the purposes of attendance travelling and subsistence allowances for members.*
- (2) *To note that the Operating Plan would be brought to Committee for approval at its meeting in February, 2001.*

(Duration of meeting: 10.30am – 1.30pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Lee Gallagher, of the Committee Services Unit, direct line (01225) 713058.

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11/02