Agenda Item 9

Community Initiatives

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Report

Report subject:	Parish Plan Endorsement
Report to:	Western Area Committee
Date:	Thursday, 16 th August 2007
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Parish/Ward/Town Plan Endorsement

1. Report Summary:

Maiden Bradley has submitted its completed Plan for endorsement by the Western Area Committee.

Maiden Bradley was one of the leaders in the field of producing Parish Plans and completed its plan before the Validation Process was introduced. Consequently, they have been unable to produce the necessary evidence to meet all the criteria required for the process, however Salisbury District Council have reviewed the plan and recommend that Western Area Committee endorse the plan as outlined below.

2. Context

Parish Plans emerged as a structured community planning mechanism in the November 2000 Rural White Paper "*Our Countryside – The Future*" which set out the Government's plans for the countryside. In preceding years' initiatives such as village appraisals and village design statements had demonstrated the value in whole communities coming together to set out their vision and ways of achieving it. Parish Plans began to emerge from this process and the idea was developed and championed by the Countryside Agency under their Vital Villages programme until 2005 when the responsibility was passed over to DEFRA.

The principal purpose of parish and town plans is to:

"... set out a vision of what is important, how new development can best be fitted in, the design and quality standards it should meet, how to preserve valued local features and to map out the facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future. Plans should ...identify key facilities and services, set out the problems that need to be tackled and demonstrate how distinctive character and features can be preserved."

3. What does endorsement mean?







Awarded in: Housing Services ENCE Waste and Recycling Services



By endorsing the Plan, the Western Area Committee is recognising the value of the work the local community has put together in establishing the needs and aspirations of the community and demonstrates its commitment in recognising the democratic voice of that community. The Committee also agrees to take the Plan into consideration when making decisions regarding the community.

Other key partners have or will also be endorsing the Plan through the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance.

4. Recommendations.

- 1) Approve the plan for endorsement on the basis that:
 - a. The Plan was completed before the Validation Process was introduced and therefore full evidence required to meet the validation criteria was no longer available
 - b. Maiden Bradley were leaders in the field of Parish Planning and have produced a satisfactory plan that has captured valid needs and aspirations of the Community
 - c. An updated action plan has been supplied detailing work that has been completed and work that is still ongoing (submitted with this report)
 - d. All 'Grandfather Plans' (those that undertook Parish Plan development prior to a validation process being in place) will be published on our website with the caveat that they are listed as 'Grandfather Plans' and that those wishing to be utilise this information need to be mindful of this fact.
- 2) Suggest that if Maiden Bradley wish to under take a full review of its Parish Plan through further community consultation (with the support and guidance of the Community Development Team at Salisbury District Council); that the steering group could at this point re-submit their plan for validation if they felt it was necessary.

5. Implications:

- Financial: None
- Legal: None
- Human Rights: This process should allow the rights of individuals to be more openly represented.
- Personnel: None
- Community Safety: None
- Environmental: None
- Council's Core Values: Parish plans will improve quality of life in the district by identifying key issues in each community and helping to address them.
- Wards Affected: Western and Mere

Actions	Lead	Timescales	Progress
A. Traffic			
1. Control HGV traffic, reduce speeding and improve pedestrian safety o B3092, with supportive actions on other roads in the parish. Work with WCC staff and county counselor	Parish council (via joint committee with Traffic Action Group)	Some measures in place by end of 2005. HGV weight limit by mid 2006	1. Traffic calming scheme built in spring 2006, to be reviewed by WCC after 1 year. Decision by WCC Cabinet due on 23/01/07 on whether to advertise restrictions on B3092
2. Monitor parking needs and develop case for specific needs of Church	PCC to develop case re Church	By summer 2006	2. No progress on identifying ways of meeting Church's need for parking
B. Community Facilities		1	
1. Upgrade village hall	Village hall management committee in association with Trustees	Meet Discrimination Act by spring2006. Remainder ongoing	1. Village hall disabled facilities complete. Grant applications will be made in 2007 to fund upgrade of kitchen and storage facilities
2. Future of village shop tenancy / location	Village Shop Management Committee, with Parish Council help, to prepare costed options	By end 2006	2. 5 year lease of shop premises renewed from November 2006 without increase in rent. Funding to be sought in 2007 for further improvements including internet point
3. Assess and take action re premises that may need to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (e.g. youth club building)	Parish Council with relevant voluntary committee support	Assessment of need by summer 2006	3. See C1, 2 below. This is covered in the outline development plan for the facilities at the Rec
4. Prepare plan for increasing recruitment, and providing training and support for volunteers. Liaise with WCC and SDC	Parish Council in liaison with Parish groups e.g. Youth	Submit plan for public discussion by late 2006	4. PC actively following up lack of support and is seeking to

Actions	Lead	Timescales	Progress
as relevant	Club		involve the sporting groups in the village to help fund a new site with the youth club and football, cricket etc included. The Parish Council has now the support of sporting groups in Whitham Friary actively seeking to use Maiden Bradley's facilities. The Parish Council is now seeking to keep the facilities open with the joint use of the sporting groups.
5. Investigate potential benefits of closer working between existing voluntary organisations in e.g. use of voluntary efforts, joint activities	Parish Council to convene and seek initial ideas	Report by end 2006	The Parish Council has implemented a grants consultation with SDC External Funding Officer and now has the Village shop committee organising an upgrade of the village shop that should go ahead this year. A possible cyber café funded by a Lloyds Bank Grant for the parishioners located in the shop and is being followed up, a meeting with the small shops advisor (Community First) has been arranged.
C. Children and Young People			
1. Prepare costed plan for development and ongoing upkeep of Rec. (inc. swimming pool) for sports and leisure activities	Parish Council with Youth Club Committee and others	Plan by mid 2006	1, 2 With grant from SDC SWAG fund outline plans

Actions	Lead	Timescales	Progress
2. Prepare costed plan for new Youth Club building and facilities inc. transport. Identify potential funding.			drawn up for upgrade of Youth Club and swimming pool and provision of changing facilities at Rec. at estimated cost of £250,000. The SWAG grant received is the first step in the process of seeking grants for upgrading the Rec for sports and leisure activities. SDC provided £1250 for the development plan. It does not help that most Youth Club members have now moved on to sixth form college and activities ceased in summer 2006. However there are now a large number of younger children in the village – and more in Kilmington. The committee are preparing a consultation exercise on the feasibility of land and demand for facilities for 8 – 13 age groups. As ever prospects of revival of the YC depend on the willingness of volunteers to help
D. Conservation and Restoration			
1. Review current approach and take necessary actions (e.g. political, planning, membership of AONB) to ensure that conservationist priority of parishioners is respected in all developments	Parish Council in association with County and District Councils, Cranbourne Chase, AONB etc	Policy statement by end 2006. Otherwise ongoing	1. PC continues to keep conservation as a priority in considering planning applications

Actions	Lead	Timescales	Progress
2. Undertake review of items identified in need of restoration work and/or favoured for ongoing monitoring inc. listing. Prepare detailed action plan	Parish Council in association as above.		2. Stefan Piwowarski is in the process of collating photographs to update the catalogue of listed buildings and following up existing projects on listing further buildings within the parish
E. Housing			
1. Ensure that successful planning applications meet the expectations of parishioners re. Conservation of village 'style'. Restrict the number of new builds in line with parishioner views. Ensure new builds are in locations identified as acceptable. Liaise with SDC	Parish Council	Ongoing	1. PC Continues to keep these criteria in mind when considering planning applications
2. Within the above context monitor the need for housing for residents, including low cost housing	Parish Council in association with Wiltshire Rural Housing Association	Ongoing	2. WRHA surveyed needs of villagers. A secondary survey of respondents to the first survey aims more precisely to identify specific needs and sites for low cost housing
Transport, Communications and Access issues			
1.Monitor and ensure that the needs of the minority of parishioners who do not have their own vehicle transport or modern form of communication are kept in focus, especially re. Access to health facilities and shopping. Support development of Wiggly bus.	Parish Council	Ongoing	1. Pc continues to monitor needs, which are at present satisfactorily met. PC have ensured that villagers are aware of Wiggly Bus timetable
2. Extend the use of electronic communications alongside paper versions for public communications	Parish Council with Parish News Editorial Group	Web facility by end of 2006	2. PC website is managed by Parish Clerk. Due shortly to carry copy of Maiden Bradley News. Village shop plans to

Actions	Lead	Timescales	Progress
			install Internet Point by 2008 if funding is obtained
3. Review options in relation to threat of losing local access to primary health care if/when the current arrangement falters	Parish Council and other	End 2006	3. Village Hall available in case of emergency. No other contingency plan considered
Governance			
1. Parish Council to achieve Quality Parish Status	Parish Council	End 2007	1. Parish Clerk is due to take exam for Certificate in Local Administration and exam of Society of Local Council Clerks. Parish Council to give villagers annual report and newsletter for distribution with Maiden Bradley News
2. Liaise with the Estate re supporting tourism developments and other matters	Parish Council	Ongoing	2. PC has developed links with Bradley House and the local Parish News Team so that further tourist activities and interaction with the village can be notified to parishioners through the Parish News and website.
3. Carry out annual review of Parish Plan progress	Parish Council to appoint independent review group	Annual	3. This review in January 2007 is the first
	independent review group		is the first