

AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

Meeting: **Cabinet**
Place: **Kennet Room - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN**
Date: **Tuesday 11 November 2014**
Time: **10.30 am**

The Agenda for the above meeting was published on 3 November 2014. Questions have since been received which are attached to this supplement along with responses from the relevant Cabinet member.

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718024 or email yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

5 Public participation and Questions from Councillors (Pages 1 - 8)

Questions received from Mr Clive Owen – Corsham Railway Station (not on the agenda) and responses from Cabinet member, Cllr John Thomson

Questions received from Cllrs Mark Connolly and David Jenkins and Mr Jonathon Brown in respect of item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement and responses from Cabinet member, Cllr Jonathon Seed.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 11 November 2014

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

11 November 2014

Item No. 5 - Public participation and Questions from Councillors

Question from Mr Clive Owen

Responses from Cllr John Thomson, Cabinet member for Highways and Transport

1. What steps has Wiltshire Council taken in the last 12 months for the train station to be reopened in Corsham?

Response: Corsham Station was included in a long list of potential major transport infrastructure projects considered by Wiltshire Council's Cabinet at its meeting on 21 May 2013 (see

<http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieIssueDetails.aspx?IId=35934&Opt=3>).

Subsequently, the station was approved as a 'Development' scheme by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Transport Body (SWLTB) at its meeting on 8 July 2013 (see

<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=940&MIId=6298&Ver=4>).

Corsham Station was included in the 'Wiltshire Rail Study: Strategic Analysis Report' (May 2013) presented to the SWLTB meeting on 2 October 2013 (see <http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s62344/Wiltshire%20Rail%20Study.pdf>).

The station was included in the Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan (SWSEP) submitted to the Government by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) in March 2014 (see <http://www.swlep.biz/news/150>).

2. Has Wiltshire Council met with anyone from the Department of Transport or Network Rail to discuss a train station at Corsham? If so what were the dates, the result of the meeting and was the meeting minuted?

Response: Officers met with Network Rail officials on 4 February 2014 to discuss potential rail infrastructure schemes, including Corsham Station, to be included in the SWSEP.

Councillor John Thomson (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways and Streetscene and Broadband) and officers attended a meeting with Stephen Hammond MP (then Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport) and representatives from Corsham on 28 March 2014.

Councillor Horace Prickett (Portfolio Holder for Transport) and Councillor Dick Tonge (Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance, Risk, Procurement and Welfare Reform; and Corsham Without and Box Hill Division) attended a meeting with Department for Transport officials and representatives from Corsham on 28 October 2014.

As far as the Council is aware, the above meetings were not formally minuted. In addition, Network Rail is an 'Advisory' member of the SWLTB.

3. Did Wiltshire Council respond to the recent Great Western Rail Franchise consultation asking for Corsham station to be reopened?

Response: In its submission, the Council highlighted that the SWSEP promotes Corsham Station and made the following relevant points:

"We are generally supportive of the Bristol Metro proposals. The franchisee should consider the challenges of integrating the Bristol Metro with the proposed Bristol-Oxford (or other) service that would serve Corsham and other proposed stations; in particular, rolling stock requirements and the efficient use of line capacity between Bristol and Bath".

"Although there are other options for providing services to new stations at Corsham and Royal Wootton Bassett, a Bristol-Oxford service is seen as having significant potential for providing economic benefits".

4. Has Wiltshire Council created a business case for the reopening of the train station at Corsham. If not, when will Wiltshire Council start this work?

Response: A brief has recently been issued to the council's term transport consultant, Atkins, to produce a Project Inception Report (PIR) in accordance with Network Rail's 'Investment in Stations: A guide for promoters and developers' (May 2011). The broad aim of a PIR is to assist the rail industry in understanding the objectives and outcomes of any third-party investment.

5. When does Wiltshire Council anticipate a business case for Corsham train station will be submitted to the Department of Transport for their approval?

Response: As stated above, Corsham Station has been included in the SWSEP and a brief for a PIR has recently been issued. Further progression of the proposal (i.e. through Network Rail's Guide to Railway Investment Projects (GRIP) process) will be dependent on the outcomes of the Local Growth Fund process and PIR.

6. Does Wiltshire Council have any viable plans for a Corsham train station to be opened in the next 10 years? if so, what are those plans?

Response: See response above.

7. How much does Wiltshire Council expect a new train station in Corsham to cost considering it closed in 1965?

Response: A cost estimate of £10 million (with a 50% contingency allowance) was included in the SWSEP.

**Public participation and Questions from Councillors
Item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement**

Question from Cllr Mark Connolly

Question

I note the paper states that discussions are underway to discuss the infrastructure requirements in relation to Army Basing. Can the Cabinet please advise what discussions have been held with MOD and with whom regarding a campus in Tidworth?

What were the responses from these discussions on whether the Tidworth Leisure Centre was supported as the Campus for Tidworth?

Will the Cabinet consider a partnership with Tidworth Town Council to build a civic centre should an extension to the TLC not be proceeded with?

**Response from Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities,
Campus, Area Boards, Libraries, Leisure and Flooding**

Response

The cabinet report presents a position statement on the first approved phase of the campus programme. It does not preclude future proposed schemes coming forward from communities for a community campus or hub that best reflects their community needs.

Each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis. It is expected that any proposed scheme will include funding contributions from partners, developers and other sources (as appropriate). In the case of Tidworth it is entirely appropriate that any proposal is taken in consideration with the Army Basing programme that will see around 12,000 additional residents located in the Salisbury Plain area.

I met with the Garrison Commander in June to discuss the requirements for the future.

It is anticipated that applications for infrastructure and amenities behind the wire will be submitted at the end of November. The requirements in local communities have still to be clarified including the facilities, services and

amenities. The Government's body (DIO) continues to look at community infrastructure required.

**Public participation and Questions from Councillors
Item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement**

Question from Cllr David Jenkins

Question

It is with some concern that we note the contents of this Cabinet report. You will be aware that within weeks our campus team in Westbury is due to present its campus proposals to the area board. Those proposals are the result of two years hard work - including one of the most effective campus consultations in the county - and are an accurate reflection of what Westbury really wants and needs. Can you tell us where this latest report leaves us now?

**Response from Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities,
Campus, Area Boards, Libraries, Leisure and Flooding**

Response

The cabinet report presents a position statement on the first approved phase of the campus programme. It does not preclude future proposed schemes coming forward from communities for a community campus or hub that best reflects their community needs.

Each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis. It is expected that any proposed scheme will include funding contributions from partners, developers and other sources (as appropriate).

In the case of Westbury, I attended the COB meeting in October and advised that subject to area board approval, I would consider a proposal for a campus model. Have, therefore, agreed to attend the next area board meeting on 11 December where the COB is expected to present its proposals for a future campus model. Following the meeting, subject to the area board approval, will consider the proposal as part of the ongoing campus programme.

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**Public participation and Questions from Councillors
Item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement**

Question from Mr Jonathon Brown

Question

In the Bradford on Avon Community Area, we have over the last three years undertaken a huge amount of work to obtain community views to identify the service needs and facilities required and partners to join a campus development. We have a compelling need for improved leisure, arts, heritage and community facilities. Public expectations have been raised by consultations in the town encouraged by your Council. There is no mention in the Campus Position Statement of the work of the Bradford on Avon Community or that of a number of other Communities developing campuses. Now it appears there is no funding and little prospect of the facilities we have been encouraged could be developed.

Can you please advise us what future there is for a campus in the Bradford on Avon Community Area and where do we sit in the Councils priorities?

**Response from Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities,
Campus, Area Boards, Libraries, Leisure and Flooding**

Response

The cabinet report presents a position statement on the first approved phase of the campus programme. It does not preclude future proposed schemes coming forward from communities for a community campus or hub that best reflects their community needs.

Each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis. It is expected that any proposed scheme will include funding contributions from partners, developers and other sources (as appropriate).

In the case of Bradford on Avon, if the COB presents a proposal for a campus model in the town, I will consider the proposal as part of the ongoing campus programme.

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