

Briefing note to Calne Area Board 29^h May 2018

Background

Calne is the one of the only town's of similar size in Wiltshire without electric car charging points. Government Funding is available for up to 75% of the cost of installation. Wiltshire Council has put its programme of installations on hold pending a review.

Calne Town Council's Town Development & Planning Committee support the proposal and will seek to work with Wiltshire Council to bring about a scheme which is supported by grant funding and future costs are established and budgeted for.

The development of the Great West Way will encourage more visitors to the town and we wish to ensure that both visitors and residents contribute to the ongoing viability and growth of the local economy.

Feedback from Residents

Resident 1

" We have recently moved to Calne and have an electric car. We were unable to locate any electric car charge points in the town. Sadly I was very disappointed to learn there were non.

While we do have a charging point at our house. Many people who might like to own an electric car may not have have access to off street parking and would rely on a public rapid charge point to charge their cars.

In addition our car is a second hand one with a smaller battery and when we go out and about we are influenced by which towns have electric charge points. As I know Calne wishes to encourage visitors I would have thought that this is something you might consider.

The number of electric cars is set to increase and as they are now becoming readily available on the second hand market they are becoming affordable to more and more people. I would hope the Council would consider installing some charge points in the near future to support this growth. Something vitally needed with the pollution levels from diesel and petrol cars causing increasing health problems etc.

Resident 2

"I believe our great town of Calne would benefit from public chargers, it attracts people to the town and our local shops as charging typically takes 2-3 hours. Having a EV charge point installed also promotes cleaner energy usage and allows thought for the future. Our town has a great community and often puts on events throughout the year it would be beneficial that an EV charging facility was available for visitors and the local public"

Recommendations

That the Calne Area Board welcome the initiative to install electric charging points in the Town and will recommend that Wiltshire Council endorse and support the scheme by allowing the use of the Church Street Heritage Quarter Car Park and put in place any necessary arrangements required.