

## **Town Council Report June 2021**

### **AREA BOARD VERSION**

The Town Clerk reports every two months to the Policy & Resources Committee with an edited version presented to the Area Board. Agenda items are highlighted and normally include an officer's recommendation. Other matters are provided as report items only.

**Chair of the committee: Cllr Stewart Palmen (Leader of the Council)**

**Deputy Chair: Cllr Andrew Bryant**

**Other Members: Councillors; David Cavill (Chair Neighbourhood Services Committee),  
Glyn Bridges (Chair Museum Committee),**

**Denise Bates (Mayor and Chair Leisure & Information Services Committee),**

**Jo Trigg,**

**Chris Hoar,**

**Graham Hill (Deputy Mayor),**

**Antonio Piazza,**

**Daniel Cave.**

*If you receive this report electronically the links in each section will take you to the relevant web page for more information about that organisation or project. If you want to be added to the e-mail circulation list, please contact the Town Clerk. The report is published six times per year prior to meetings of the Policy & Resources committee held in January, March, May, July, September and November.*

**Lance Allan, Town Clerk**

Trowbridge Town Council,  
The Civic Centre,  
St Stephen's Place,  
TROWBRIDGE,  
Wilts,  
BA14 8AH

[info@trowbridge.gov.uk](mailto:info@trowbridge.gov.uk)

@Trowbridgegov

#DiscoverTROWBRIDGE

[www.trowbridge.gov.uk](http://www.trowbridge.gov.uk)

<https://thecivictrowbridge.co.uk/>

[www.trowbridgemuseum.co.uk](http://www.trowbridgemuseum.co.uk)

01225 765072

## **1. POLICY**

**1.1 PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)** - A Working Party was established by the Neighbourhood Services Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020:

***RESOLVED: That Neighbourhood Services Committee has a working party set up to explore all options to tackle antisocial behaviour within the vicinity of the town park.***

# **Trowbridge Town Council**

*Working with the Community*

The Working Party of three councillors (**AGENDA ITEM 8**) will be reappointed by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June. No meetings of the Working Party were held until WC Officers had explained the background to the establishment of the PSPO, why it lapsed and had not successfully been implemented and what the options for the future would be. The meeting was held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Head of Public Protection at WC, John Carter, briefed the Working Group to explain the background and potential solutions. Michael Dooley from Legal Services was unable to join the meeting but two questions to him have been answered at a later date: Why does it appear that the onward enforcement processes for the lapsed PSPO, which were the responsibility of WC; was not implemented correctly resulting in tickets issued by the police having no effect? And; Do the Park bye-laws which the TTC inherited from WC when it took over the Park, still apply and can they be enforced? Responses received:

*1. Enforceability of FPNs. Wiltshire Council has no record of any Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued by the Police in respect of the Trowbridge PSPO. A PSPO may only be made by the primary authority, which is Wiltshire Council. Officers appointed by Trowbridge Town Council would only be able to act as authorised officers on behalf of Wiltshire Council. As the primary authority that makes the PSPO Wiltshire Council would be the enforcing authority. Police support and involvement is also necessary as they are more likely to be available in the locality. Police officers are empowered to make enquiries that will make a FPN a more effective deterrent, and most importantly only police officers can require offenders to provide their name and address to include on the FPN; if this is not given the refusal will be an arrestable offence.*

*2. Trowbridge Town Park byelaws. Wiltshire Council has a copy of the 1925 byelaw relating to Trowbridge Town Park which includes reference to ASB type issues. However, we are unsure if the 1925 byelaw was ever amended, for example in 1974 when local government reorganisation took place to replace Trowbridge Urban District Council. The Town Council may have records in your archive which may shed light on this.*

The options for the future appear to be based around the reinstatement of a new PSPO with a partnership approach to enforcement with the police and WC Enforcement Officers and a financial contribution from TTC which might involve paying for a set number of additional hours per week of PSPO specific enforcement in Trowbridge, including the Park. This is likely to be better value than TTC employing its own member of staff or paying for a Police Community Support Officer.

**1.2 CCTV** - TTC wrote to Police & Crime Commissioner candidates, responses were only received from some, none offered to provide funding towards TTC's CCTV system which is monitored by the Shires Shopping Centre and includes over 20 cameras in the town centre and at White Horse Business Park. The Town Council will need to consider as part of the new Strategy whether to continue supporting CCTV and the costs of investing in new cameras to provide evidence quality images.

## **1.3 TROWBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGY 2021-2025 (AGENDA ITEM 9)**

Following the election, the Council will be developing a new four-year strategy. The old Strategy can be found here [Strategy 2017-2021](#). The new Strategy 2021-2025 will need to consider the following elements:

**Building back business at the Civic Centre**

**Maintaining and investing in the Town Park**

**Keeping our community Active**

**Transfer from WC – Litter Bins, keeping streets & greenspaces clean and maintained**

# **Trowbridge Town Council**

*Working with the Community*

**Future High Streets Fund – a thriving town centre**

**Investing in facilities – Doric Park**

**Planning for the future – new development locations, partnership with neighbouring parishes**

**Improving the environment – zero carbon target**

**A workshop for all councillors is arranged for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July afternoon/evening to consider the Town Council Strategy 2021-2025 for presentation to the Policy & Resources Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> September and to Full Council for approval on 21<sup>st</sup> September.**

## **2. RESOURCES**

### **2.1 FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

**2.1.1 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS 2020-2021 (AGENDA ITEM 10)** – The Q4 2020/21 summary (as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021) is presented to the committee for consideration (**included at Appendix A**). For information: Q1 April-June, Q2 July-September, Q3 October-December and Q4 January-March.

**2.1.2 RISK & AUDIT (AGENDA ITEM 14 )** – The Policy & Resources Committee appointed five members to the Risk & Audit Panel. The Risk & Audit Panel considers financial matters, risk, insurance etc. and meets quarterly It next meets on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

**2.1.3 BUDGET** - The 2021/2022 budget, precept and Council Tax was approved on 19<sup>th</sup> January and is available on the website: [BUDGET SUMMARY LINK](#).

**2.1.4 END OF YEAR BALANCES (AGENDA ITEM 11)** –The Council approved the allocation of earmarked reserves and balances on 18<sup>th</sup> May:

|                                  |                 |   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| <b>Woodmarsh (S106)</b>          | <b>£10,553</b>  | <b>(for ground improvements)</b>                  |
| <b>Events</b>                    | <b>£10,000</b>  | <b>?</b>  |
| <b>Play Area (S106 Elmhurst)</b> | <b>£29,168</b>  | <b>(for Hulbert Close &amp; Painters Mead)</b>    |
| <b>Civic Centre M&amp;E</b>      | <b>£64,645</b>  | <b>(for replacement Air Source Heat Pump)</b>     |
| <b>Doric Park (S106)</b>         | <b>£401,136</b> |   |
| <b>MUGA (Grants)</b>             | <b>£30,220</b>  |   |
| <b>WC Asset Transfers</b>        | <b>£40,000</b>  | <b>(for litter bins, recreation grounds, etc)</b> |

This will result in a reduction in the General Reserve allocation at the year end, mainly resulting from lower than anticipated Community Infrastructure Levy receipts. At the previous meeting of the committee a motion was considered and referred to this meeting in conjunction with consideration of end of year balances. The motion was:

***MOTION: That Trowbridge Town Council uses the £3,000 funding originally budgeted for the Mayor's Dinner in March 2021 and allocates it to our new version of Wiltshire Armed Forces, bringing the total closer to the £7,000 original grant. If the event does not go ahead in 2021 due to the pandemic, we will rollover the amount to the following year. The Mayor's Dinner will instead be sponsored or simply not go ahead.***

As the Council has approved the allocation of £10,000 to an events reserve then in effect the allocation indicated in this motion has in effect been made and exceeded.

**As the Council has approved the allocation of an events reserve of £10,000 the committee does not need to consider the motion further.**

**2.1.5 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (AGENDA ITEM 12)** – TTC receives 15% of WC CIL for developments in the town boundary and received £25,797.03 for 2020/2021 (budget £65,500). With a Neighbourhood Plan, areas within the NP boundary receive 25% of the applicable CIL.

**Community Infrastructure Levy receipts of £25,797.03 for 2020/21 are allocated as follows:**

|                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Park Storage Unit Project</b> | <b>£25,797.03</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|

# Trowbridge Town Council

*Working with the Community*

The 2021/2022 budget includes an anticipated contribution of £22,000 based upon 20% of the pipeline of new developments being delivered, reducing the precept requirement. As Ashton Park and other sites commence development this is likely to increase significantly and should be sustained for around ten years, particularly now that large areas of new development have been transferred into the town boundary from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. The receipts will be allocated to projects and activities undertaken by TTC during the year in line with the original budget. These may include: Doric Park 3GATP planning costs, Play Area improvements, Street Cleaning and the Museum Project. Developments in Trowbridge are chargeable at the following rates (/m<sup>2</sup>):

| Development type                           | Total CIL Charge (/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 25%    | 15%    |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Residential                                | £55                                 | £13.75 | £8.25  |
| Residential Ashton Park                    | £30                                 | £7.50  | £4.50  |
| Student Accom /Hotel/Town Centre<br>Retail | £70                                 | £17.50 | £10.50 |
| Retail w'house/ superstore                 | £175                                | £43.75 | £26.25 |

The three year forecast indicates that when Ashton Park and other developments proceed the CIL receipts will be around £100,000 per annum.

**2.1.6 General Reserves** – At the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 end of year, TTC's reserves were £146,000 and therefore were significantly below the expected levels of a minimum of 3-month's revenue expenditure. The committee is considering the end of year 2020/2021 accounts which provide for a contribution of around £51,000. There will need to be contributions in 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24. 3-month's revenue expenditure (excluding loan repayments) is estimated to be £415,000. A contribution to reserves of £18,900 is included in the 2020/21 budget, with contributions of £75,500 forecast in each of the following two years.

**2.1.7 Council Tax** – WC confirmed the Council Tax Charge for 2021/22 on 23<sup>rd</sup> February. WC increased by 4.99% including Social Care, Police 6.94%, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire 1.52%, and average parish and town council 3.26%. The other town councils in Wiltshire for comparison are:

## Wiltshire Council Area, Town & City Council 'Band-D' Council Tax Charges 2021/2022

| Council               | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | Change | 2020/21-<br>21/22           |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Chippenham*           | £239.61 | £262.05 | £270.44 | +3.2%  |                             |
| Bradford on Avon      | £185.39 | £216.90 | £216.90 | +0.0%  | Upper                       |
| Calne                 | £210.31 | £215.57 | £215.57 | +0.0%  | Quartile                    |
| Malmesbury            | £205.49 | £210.63 | £214.84 | +2.0%  |                             |
| Marlborough           | £195.13 | £206.37 | £214.11 | +3.8%  |                             |
| Royal Wootton Bassett | £204.81 | £209.81 | £211.62 | +0.9%  | 75 <sup>th</sup> percentile |
| Corsham               | £168.74 | £199.09 | £210.15 | +5.6%  |                             |
| Warminster            | £127.96 | £191.75 | £208.09 | +8.5%  |                             |
| Salisbury*            | £208.00 | £208.00 | £208.00 | +0.0%  |                             |
| Cricklade             | £196.72 | £203.79 | £207.72 | +1.9%  | Median                      |
|                       | £161.95 | £179.34 | £185.69 | +3.7%  | Mean Average                |
| Devizes*              | £157.92 | £176.11 | £179.74 | +2.1%  |                             |
| Westbury              | £132.94 | £172.46 | £178.20 | +3.3%  |                             |

# Trowbridge Town Council

*Working with the Community*

|                    |         |         |         |        |                             |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Tidworth</b>    | £148.70 | £155.96 | £170.00 | +9.0%  |                             |
| <b>Trowbridge</b>  | £153.98 | £164.98 | £167.46 | +1.5%  | 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile |
| <b>Melksham</b>    | £153.12 | £160.45 | £164.08 | +2.3%  |                             |
| <b>Wilton</b>      | £137.43 | £150.53 | £153.98 | +2.3%  |                             |
| <b>Ludgershall</b> | £104.65 | £116.39 | £132.02 | +13.4% | Lower                       |
| <b>Amesbury</b>    | £98.07  | £116.27 | £123.24 | +6.0%  | Quartile                    |
| <b>Durrington</b>  | £58.75  | £70.41  | £81.90  | +16.3% |                             |

A number of Parish Councils also charge more than £100 Band D: Chippenham Without, Kington St Michael, Maiden Bradley, Mere, Purton, Seagry, Tisbury, West Dean, Wingfield and Winterbourne Stoke. The average parish & town council Band D Council Tax is £131.31.

The government has now published the full list of parish precepts for 2021/22. This shows that the average parish Band D charge across England is £71.86. Trowbridge is at position 134. Three parishes charge more than £300 Band D and 58 parishes charge between £200 and £300. Of those parishes charging a precept, Trowbridge is at position 52 in terms of the Band D equivalent properties. In terms of total precept, Trowbridge is at position 9, with 5 charging between £2M and £3M and three charging more than £3M (including Chippenham and Salisbury).

**2.1.8 Election costs** - WC has not charged for elections but is expected to consider arrangements for re-charging town and parish councils for the cost of conducting elections in future years. TTC will need to consider inclusion of election costs in the budget from 2022/23 based upon this being approved by WC.

**2.1.9 Financial Implications of Coronavirus Emergency** – The option to furlough staff is restricted by the commercial income rule, so only staff in income generating departments have been furloughed. In addition, reduction in expenditure has been implemented for a range of areas and the majority of recruitment frozen. We received around £20,000 of government grant support from Wiltshire Council in 2020/21 which has been used to offset Business Rates. The biggest risk in 2021/22 will be the Civic Centre where activities are most restricted for a longer period and where we have incorporated a higher level of financial support in the 2021/22 budget, reducing for future years. Furlough figures are shown below.

| 2020/21          | Civic  | Active Trowbridge | Facilities |
|------------------|--------|-------------------|------------|
| <b>April</b>     | £9,911 | £24,413           | £932       |
| <b>May</b>       | £9,911 | £30,234           | £932       |
| <b>June</b>      | £9,781 | £27,232           | £932       |
| <b>July</b>      | £8,790 | £22,190           | £609       |
| <b>August</b>    | £8,292 | £17,021           | £705       |
| <b>September</b> | £7,099 | £6,159            | £515       |
| <b>October</b>   | £5,284 | £6,445            | £485       |
| <b>November</b>  | £7,888 | £8,802            | £358       |
| <b>December</b>  | £8,268 | £11,661           | £588       |
| <b>January</b>   | £7,390 | £12,576           | £802       |
| <b>February</b>  | £7,238 | £12,854           | £802       |

# Trowbridge Town Council

Working with the Community

|              |                   |                    |                  |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| March        | £6,736            | £8,375             | £802             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£96,588.00</b> | <b>£187,962.00</b> | <b>£8,462.00</b> |

April, May June and July 2020 payments include NI and Pension contributions from HMRC. From July 2020 to present, some staff are working some hours on flexible furlough.

| 2021/22      | Civic            | Active Trowbridge | Facilities     |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| April        | £6,017           | £7,837            | £421           |
| May          | £3,472           | £8,167            | £362           |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£9,489.00</b> | <b>£16,004.00</b> | <b>£783.00</b> |

The furlough scheme will continue until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. However, there are changes to the level of grant from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. Currently the government contribution is at **80%**, up to £2500, with the Employer paying all NI and pension contributions. From 1<sup>st</sup> July the government contribution drops to **70%** up to **£2,187.50** with an additional required contribution from the employer of **10% and up to £312.50**. Employer will continue to pay all NI and pension contributions. From 1<sup>st</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> September the government contribution drops to **60%** up to **£1,875** with an additional required contribution from the employer of **20% and up to £625**. Employer will continue to pay all NI and pension contributions.

## **2.1.10 GRANTS (AGENDA ITEM 13)**

The Town Council offers Core Grants on a longer term basis to organisations, which are confirmed as part of the budget setting process and also awards general grants to applicants. The [Grants Policy](#) provides details.

The committee will be considering confirmation of award of Core Grants and a number of General Grant applications which have been received by the April deadline, as per the following and as itemised on the agenda:

**The committee awarded an additional £500 to Trowbridge Guild of Community Service in 2021 from £500 to £1000 and that this is increased for future years also. And that all other Core Grants are awarded in accordance with the policy as amended.**

**The committee awarded all of the General Grants in full.**

**Given the remaining budget (£8593.23), further General Grant applications are invited by 31st July 2021 for consideration at the committee meeting in September.**

## **2.2 HUMAN RESOURCES**

**2.2.1 Furlough** - The Civic Supervisors and Event & Conferencing Officer remain on flexible furlough, working minimal hours to service essential bookings. Our Assistant Manager, who was on flexible furlough, is now on maternity leave from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021. The Civic Bookings and Admin Officer is now off furlough and working full time. Some Civic Staff continue to work some additional flexi hours at the Museum, assisting with the unpacking and sorting of all boxes and to help in readiness for the

re-opening. The Museum are very grateful for the extra support. Active Trowbridge staff are working varied flexible hours in line with demand at schools, which is re-assessed monthly by Aaron Seviour. Our Facilities' Event Support Officer remains on flexible furlough.

## **2.2.2 Staff Changes**

**Active Trowbridge Manager – Aaron Seviour**, (Commercial Development Officer), was appointed as Active Trowbridge Manager from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

**Resources Assistant** – A part-time Resources Assistant is included in the budget for 2021/22. The recruitment process has commenced, with an expected start date of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021

**Learning and Outreach Apprentice – Beatrice Bush** was appointed and commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021.

**Museum Assistant** - A Part-time Museum Assistant is included in the budget for 2021/22. Recruitment will commence with the next month.

**Civic Assistant Manager - Becci Knight** has welcomed her first child. She is taking maternity leave from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021 and is set to return on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

**Active Trowbridge Team Co-Ordinator - Richard Rees** has welcomed his first child, and took paternity leave in May.

**Sports Coach** – Following the resignation of **Jason Henley**, one of our 30hr sports coaches, we are recruiting a 20hr Sports Coach with an estimated start date of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

**Grounds Operative** - A Part-time Grounds Operative is included in the budget for 2021/22. Recruitment has not commenced yet.



## **3. TOWN COUNCIL SERVICES**

Heads of Service make detailed reports to their respective committees, which are published the week before the meeting. The Council Secretary (Amanda Quick) is responsible for administering these committees.

### **3.1 CULTURAL & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

Delegated to Head of Service: Cultural & Neighbourhoods (Clare Lyall) responsible for the Museum, Neighbourhood Services and our relationship with other cultural service providers in the town. The two committees next meet on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

**3.1.1 MUSEUM** – Museum staff have worked extremely hard, supported by other staff and volunteers to get the Museum ready for reopening, following the major expansion and refurbishment. It opened on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and all of the councillors will be invited to visit prior to the Museum Committee meeting. See below photographs.

**3.1.2 NEIGHBOURHOODS** – Our Neighbourhoods Team look after play areas, recreation grounds, bus shelters, grit bins and support the activities of WC in looking after our streets, including providing our own street sweeping and weed clearance services. Litter Bins and the majority of grass cutting remain with WC. (see **Service Delegation & Asset Transfer (SDAT)** below). Having consulted with other town councils the clear advice is that a mixture of in-house operations, providing flexibility to respond to changing demands and contractors to cover seasonal matters such as grass cutting hedge trimming and floral displays works best. TTC will need to consider how to proceed with further service transfers from WC as part of the Strategy for 2021-2025. Early indications suggest that there is demand to improve the litter bin service as the next service to transfer. At the previous meeting the following was RESOLVED:

***That Trowbridge Town Council considers, as part of the development of the Council Strategy 2021-2025 that the litter bin service should be priority for transfer from Wiltshire Council. This will include; replacement of life expired and additional bins, surveys, sponsorship etc. This will be factored in to consideration of the re-tendered grounds maintenance contract and which services can be retained by Wiltshire Council and which can be retained in house by the town council. Trowbridge Town Council will use the £40,000 amount, set aside this year for WC transfers, to fund these services over the next two years.***

### **3.2 VENUE SERVICES**

Delegated to Head of Service: Resources & Venues (Juliet Weimar) including The Civic and Longfield Community Centre. The Civic Board is responsible for overseeing these and it met on 10<sup>th</sup> November, minutes of which are presented to this committee. The next meeting is 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**3.2.1 LONGFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE** – The DVSA lease the small hall. Bookings in the main hall are now recommencing, subject to regulations.

**3.2.2 CIVIC CENTRE** - Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health partnership (AWP) lease some office spaces. Bookings have recommenced in our conferencing facilities as regulations allow and we will respond

flexibly to any relaxation of social distancing. We have accounted for a reduced income level in the 2021/22 budget. Blood Donor sessions continue on a regular basis. WC are holding their Full Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May at the Civic Centre to facilitate social distancing.

**3.2.3 CIVIC BOARD (AGENDA ITEM 14)** – The Committee needs to appoint five members to the Civic Board which will meet on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

### **3.3 LEISURE & INFORMATION SERVICES**

Delegated to Head of Service: Leisure & Facilities (Hayley Bell) is responsible for Active Trowbridge, Information Services and Facilities. The committee next meets on 9<sup>th</sup> March.

**3.3.1 ACTIVE TROWBRIDGE** – Have been operating in schools from September, providing a range of services including Breakfast Clubs, Lunchtime and after school clubs and curriculum time support. The team also provides a range of other community activities.

**3.3.2 INFORMATION SERVICES** – The team have been keeping the website and social media channels updated as well as supporting the community in response to the virus. They have also been kept extremely busy dealing with numerous complaints, FOI requests and other issues from one or two members of the public. With housing developments planned for 3000 houses in the town in the next few years, TTC will need to consider how it distributes information to people thinking of moving to Trowbridge or buying a new property. I have asked the Information Services team to consider how this could be included in the Strategy 2021-2025.

**3.3.3 EVENTS** – The team are supporting community groups during the year and looking at arrangements for possible larger events over the next 18 months.

**3.4 Facilities** – Councillors have been supported with technical matters following the election. The Facilities Manager supports all of our other departments with building, technical and project matters. The Facilities Manager has now taken temporary responsibility for the Neighbourhood Services Department as the Head of Service Culture and Neighbourhoods is on long-term sick.

## **4. TOWN COUNCIL PROJECTS**

### **4.1 MUSEUM PROJECT – The TTC Strategy says;**

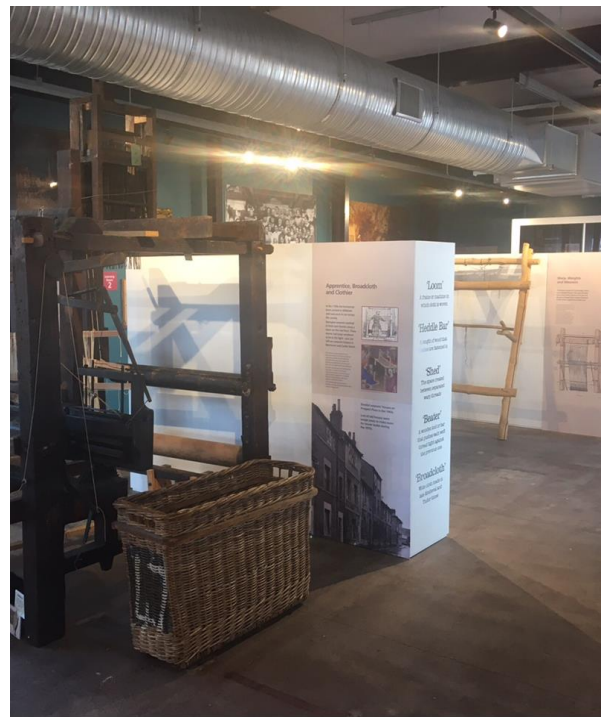
***Trowbridge Town Council will; complete the project 'Onwards and Upwards' to expand Trowbridge Museum; secure funding from the NLHF and other funders and; will contribute around £900,000, funded from borrowing at a cost of up to £50,000 per annum. The new Museum will reach out from its base in Home Mills in The Shires, to encompass the whole town, through visual links from the top floor, interpretation and signage at key locations and significant buildings linked to the museum.***

With all of the major capital works now complete the claims to the National Lottery Heritage Fund will be mainly for activity and staff related costs during 2021, until the final grant is concluded at the end of the 2021/22 financial year. This is reflected in the budget.



# **Trowbridge Town Council**

*Working with the Community*



## **4.2 SPORTS PITCHES PROJECTS – The TTC Strategy says;**

***Trowbridge Town Council will support and if necessary be actively involved in:***

***a. Provision of an all-weather pitch at Doric Park in conjunction with national sports funders and other organisations.***

***b. Development of the Health & Well-being Centre by Wiltshire Council in the town centre.***

**4.2.1 Woodmarsh** – TTC owns Woodmarsh Football Ground between Boundary Walk and Axe & Cleaver Lane, North Bradley. It is leased to Trowbridge Town Football Club (TFC). TTC received £18,644 S106 sports pitch contribution from Newland Homes. This is being managed by TTC to fund

TTC's improvement and development programme. Further contributions are anticipated from other housing developments in the vicinity, allowing the club to improve drainage on site.

**4.2.2 DORIC PARK 3GATP** – TTC owns 5 acres alongside Trowbridge Rugby Football Club (TRFC) at Doric Park, Devizes Road, Hilperton. We are progressing development of the land to provide a 3G Artificial Turf Pitch (3GATP), parking, changing rooms, education facilities and gym. The cost will be around £3.2m. A requirement to secure borrowing of £2.2m has already been approved by TTC, to be funded from lettings income, with other funding from S106 (£555,000) and grants (£500,000) including the Football Foundation (£488,908). The planning application, has now been approved: [19/10805/FUL](#) there were delays for a variety of reasons since the application was registered. Access and a strip of land is being secured from TRFC and the membership voted overwhelmingly to approve the proposals in December 2020. The agreement with TRFC includes the provision of additional car parking alongside the access road, additional pitch lighting and access to the new facilities. Some councillors have questioned why TTC is developing a site outside the town boundary. This project has been developing for over 15 years, since the first proposals for development at Castle Mead were put forward and there is no suitable land available within the town boundary. This site is the closest site to the town which has become available, has one of the best bus services in the local area including bus services to Melksham, Chippenham, Devizes and Frome and is on the cycle route network, including an upgrade to the Trowbridge-Melksham route. The development is included in the Wiltshire Playing Pitch Strategy. At the Full Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020 it was RESOLVED:

***That; subject to confirmation of tenders, planning approval and public consultation; the Town Council submits a borrowing approval application to MHCLG for up to £2.2million for the Doric Park 3G – Artificial Turf Pitch Project.***

***And That the Council notes the following:***

***Based on the latest information from HM Treasury this equates to an annual repayment, including interest of £104,398.74 over a 30-year term at an interest rate of 2.48%. This equates to a total of £3,131,962.20 including interest and repayments.***

***And, the borrowing application, if approved, would not be taken until the financial situation of the town council resulting from the impact of the pandemic and the future financial security of the council is understood. And that a final decision on progressing the project would be subject to the decision of Full Council.***

At the March 2021 Full Council meeting it was RESOLVED:

***That further to the resolution of the Council on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020 the consultation has been completed and Trowbridge Rugby Football Club has approved the deal; we still await planning permission and tenders and therefore if planning permission and tenders are received before the 6<sup>th</sup> May the borrowing approval application will be submitted and if not, then the Council will consider the project approval including borrowing approval application following the election.***

Whilst the planning issues have been resolved, we have not yet received confirmation of permission. A number of minor details with the TRFC agreement are under discussion and our consultants have not concluded the tendering process. The Council will therefore have a further opportunity to consider the project including borrowing approval when these are complete.

**4.2.3 Ashton Park** – A facility is due to be provided to the west of West Ashton Road with pitches, 6 team changing rooms and carpark. Following consultation with W Ashton and N Bradley PCs TTC are leading discussion with Persimmon, trying to avoid a management company, as is very controversial at Castle Mead.

**4.2.4 Elm Grove** – The developer is proposing to enhance the Recreation Ground with new play equipment, two new junior football pitches, changing facilities and car parking. The changing room would also be able to be used as a community facility and Polling Station.

**4.2.5 Paxcroft Mead Cricket Ground** – When the surgery extension was built on the Cricket Club's Seymour practice field, a S106 contribution for cricket was made. The S106 funding is still with the Cricket Club and they are still very keen to pursue Paxcroft Mead as a preferred site. However, due to resourcing issues, two Board members, Chris Sheppard and Chris Sykes, have agreed to take this on from this point.

**4.2.6 Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs)** – TTC upgraded the Tennis Courts and MUGA in the Town Park in 2017 worth around £170,000 including new floodlighting, using grant income from the Lawn Tennis Association and S106 grants. The Facilities Manager and Leisure Services team have been working on a project to upgrade our other four MUGAs in communities across the town. The tender review panel met in February and as a result the contract was awarded to ETC Sports Surfaces, who also did the work in the Park. The cost of the works is £100,000 to £120,000 and is fully funded from grant income from Sport England, the Area Board and Selwood Housing. The four sites which are now being fully refurbished are: Studley Green, Grove Recreation Ground, Seymour Recreation Ground and Longmeadow.

## 5. CIVIC & DEMOCRATIC ACTIVITIES

**5.1 Calendar of Meetings** - Council and committee meetings normally commence at 19:00 and are available for the public to join via MS Teams. If any member of the public would like to join the meeting please use the [meeting link](#) on the TTC website. There follows a table of meeting dates over the next three months. The full calendar for 2021/22 is circulated separately to councillors.

|               |                  |                                       |
|---------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>July</b>   | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | NO MEETING                            |
|               | 13 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Town Development (4 weeks)</b>     |
|               | 20 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Full Council</b>                   |
|               | 27 <sup>th</sup> | NO MEETING                            |
| <b>August</b> | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | <b>Town Development</b>               |
|               | 10 <sup>th</sup> | NO MEETING                            |
|               | 17 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Civic Board (14:00)</b>            |
|               | 17 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Risk &amp; Audit Panel (15:00)</b> |
|               | 24 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Town Development</b>               |
|               | 31 <sup>st</sup> | NO MEETING                            |
| <b>Sept</b>   | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | <b>Policy &amp; Resources</b>         |

**5.1.1 Calendar 2021/22** - A revised calendar is presented to the Full Council for approval, including the change of date for the meeting to sign off the annual accounts to 22<sup>nd</sup> June shown above.

**5.1.2 Virtual vs In-person Meetings** – Following a High Court ruling and no extension to the virtual meetings regulations councils are required to hold formal meetings in person. The Annual Council Meeting is being held in-person in the Lansdown Hall of the Civic Centre, including additional sound-system support. The committee meetings are also being held in-person in the Council Chamber to increase social distancing except for the Town Development Committee, where it has been arranged that these will continue on MS TEAMS for the meetings on 25<sup>th</sup> May and 15<sup>th</sup> June with delegated decision making to the Town Clerk, based upon the discussions and indicative decisions made by the virtual meetings. The committee may then consider if this arrangement should continue beyond the removal of restrictions.

### 5.2 Dates for your diary

**Civic Service** – The Mayor may be able to make arrangements for the Annual Civic Service to take place later in the year.

**5.4 Elections** – Elections for all 21 seats on TTC (& 7 for WC) were held on 6<sup>th</sup> May. Full details are available from the following link [Election Results](#). The councillors for 2021-2025 are:

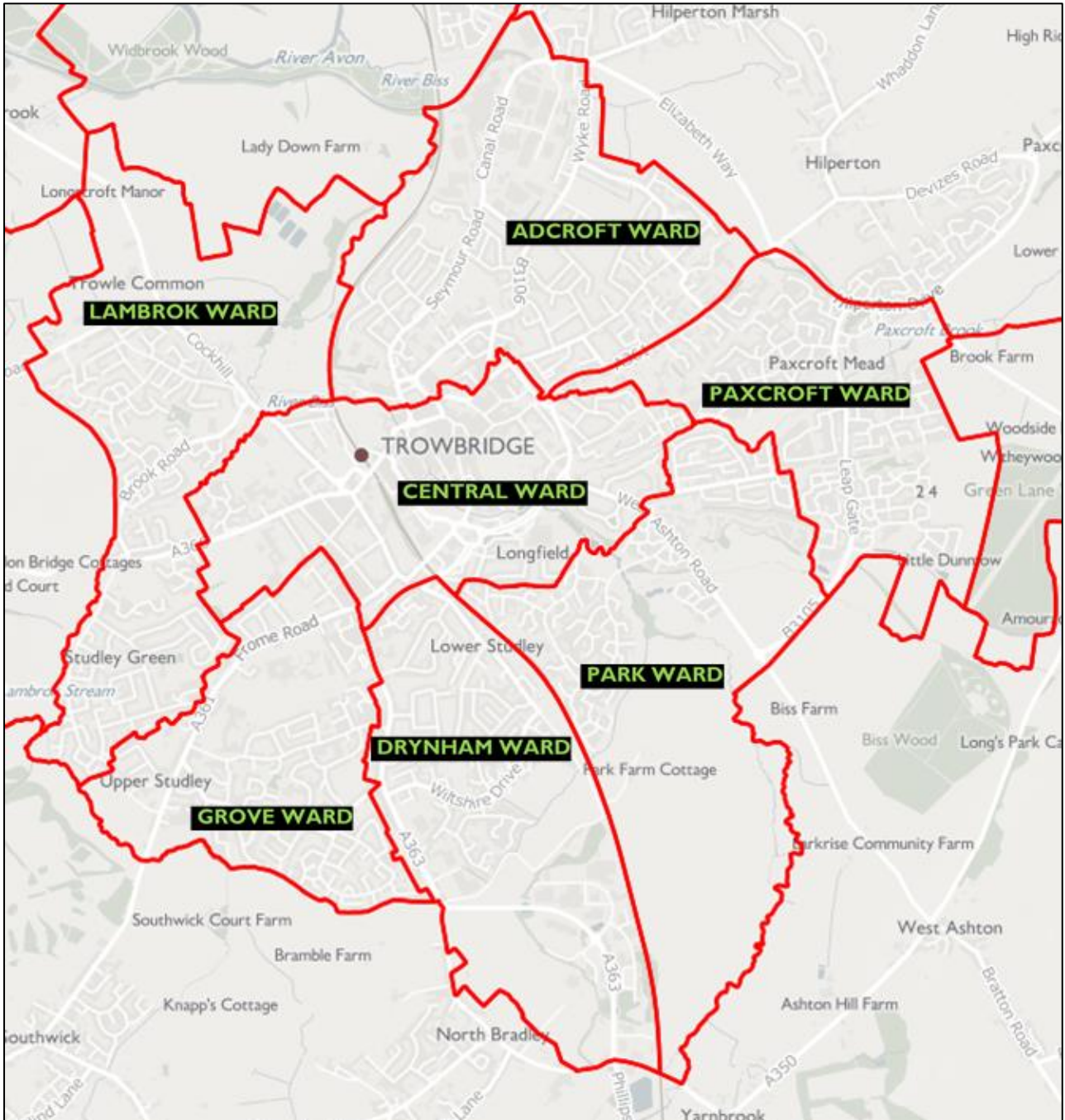
| Ward    | Town Councillors |             |         | Wiltshire Councillor |
|---------|------------------|-------------|---------|----------------------|
| ADCROFT | Blakemore        | Edward Kirk | Lincoln | Edward Kirk          |
| CENTRAL | Blackmore        | Hoar        | Palmen  | Palmen               |
| DRYNHAM | Bates            | Bryant      | Piazza  | Piazza               |
| GROVE   | Hill             | Vigar       | Halik   | Vigar                |
| LAMBROK | Allsworth        | Beaver      | Trigg   | Trigg                |
| PARK    | Cave             | Bridges     | Cooper  | Cave                 |

# Trowbridge Town Council

Working with the Community

|          |        |       |            |       |
|----------|--------|-------|------------|-------|
| PAXCROFT | Cavill | Jacob | Emily Kirk | Jacob |
|----------|--------|-------|------------|-------|

## Town Council (& Wiltshire Council) Ward Boundaries in Trowbridge.



**5.3 Twinning** - Following the Weekly Briefing on 5<sup>th</sup> May it was approved that subject to minor amendments to be made by officers the agreement in principle will form the basis of a Service Level Agreement with each of the four Twinning Associations to allow TTC to continue paying an annual grant to each of them and contributing towards twinning activities as per the Grants Policy. We will be progressing this following the disruption caused by the pandemic and approval of the 2021



# **Trowbridge Town Council**

*Working with the Community*

Grants. The Town is twinned with Leer in Germany, Charenton le Pont in France, Elblag in Poland (jointly with the other towns in West Wilts) and Oujda in Morocco.

## **6. TOWN DEVELOPMENT**

Committee meets: 25<sup>th</sup> May, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August to consider regulatory matters consulted on by WC; planning, listed building and tree applications, road closures, traffic regulation and licensing.

**6.1 Future High Streets Fund (FHSF)** – WC has been awarded £16,347,056 from the government, having made an application for £23million following engagement with the community and partners, including TTC. They have now confirmed to government what can be achieved with the reduced grant. 72 towns and cities were awarded funds ranging from the maximum £25million down to £1million. 13 of the grants were for more than Trowbridge and only one of those receiving more is smaller than Trowbridge. Most are cities and within large conurbations. A significant portion of the grant will be used to refurbish and improve the Town Hall.

### **6.2 Employment/Mixed-use/Brownfield Housing sites**

**Bowers/Innox Mills** – An application for the villas fronting Stallards Street has been submitted [20/08558/FUL](#). An application for the remainder of the site is anticipated in 2021 and is expected to deliver up to 250 homes.

**County Hall East** – WC are considering options for this site which they own but has some significant environmental obstacles around culverts and the river bank.

**White Horse Business Park** – Conversion of (former Virgin) offices in the northwest corner to 104 new homes has been permitted [19/01835/PNCOU](#) [19/01841/PNCOU](#) [20/05950/PNCOU](#). A recent application for a retail development alongside was refused.

**McDonogh Court** – Polebarn Rd [20/08222/FUL](#) now permitted for 18 new homes.

**Clark's Mill** – [19/09388/FUL](#) permitted for conversion to 19 dwellings next to the Town Bridge.

**United Church Buildings** – 18/03338/FUL & [18/03856/LBC](#) permitted for conversion into 26 apartments, revised application now submitted [20/03407/FUL](#) and site for sale.

**Bradford Road** – A site accessed from the sewage works access road is permitted for employment uses, application for care home now submitted [20/07247/OUT](#)

**Courtfield House** – [18/04656/FUL](#) Ashford Homes a revised application for conversion and houses in the grounds has now been submitted. TTC has no current objections.

**Ashton Street Centre** – To be disposed of by WC should accommodate 70 dwellings.

**Hospital** – Promoted in the 'One Public Estate' bid by WC and partners for up to 200 houses. The adjacent site is now subject to an application for a new Integrated Care Centre to replace the hospital [21/01211/REM](#) The new Trowbridge Care Centre should be open in 2023.

**Homefield House** – Conversion to 18 residential apartments, previous application withdrawn.

**Manvers House** – Being converted to 27 flats. First tranche of CIL now received

**Biss Farm** - Currently an employment allocation, Persimmon [17/09961/OUT](#) has applied for 267 houses, a school, pub and care-home between Leap Gate & W Ashton Rd. TTC supports the allocation of this site to include housing. (See the yellow area on the Ashton Park plan below).

**6.3 Greenfield Housing Sites** – Some have been delayed pending resolution of mitigation measures associated with Bats. The following provides a summary of the situation.

A. **Ashton Park and associated sites.** The area south of Leap Gate and east of the River Biss is in West Ashton parish, the remainder of the development site is in Trowbridge.

**Persimmon** [15/04736/OUT](#) for 2,500 houses, employment area (area in West Ashton closest to Biss Woods), sports pitches, open space, allotments, play areas, 2 primary and 1 secondary schools (west

# **Trowbridge Town Council**

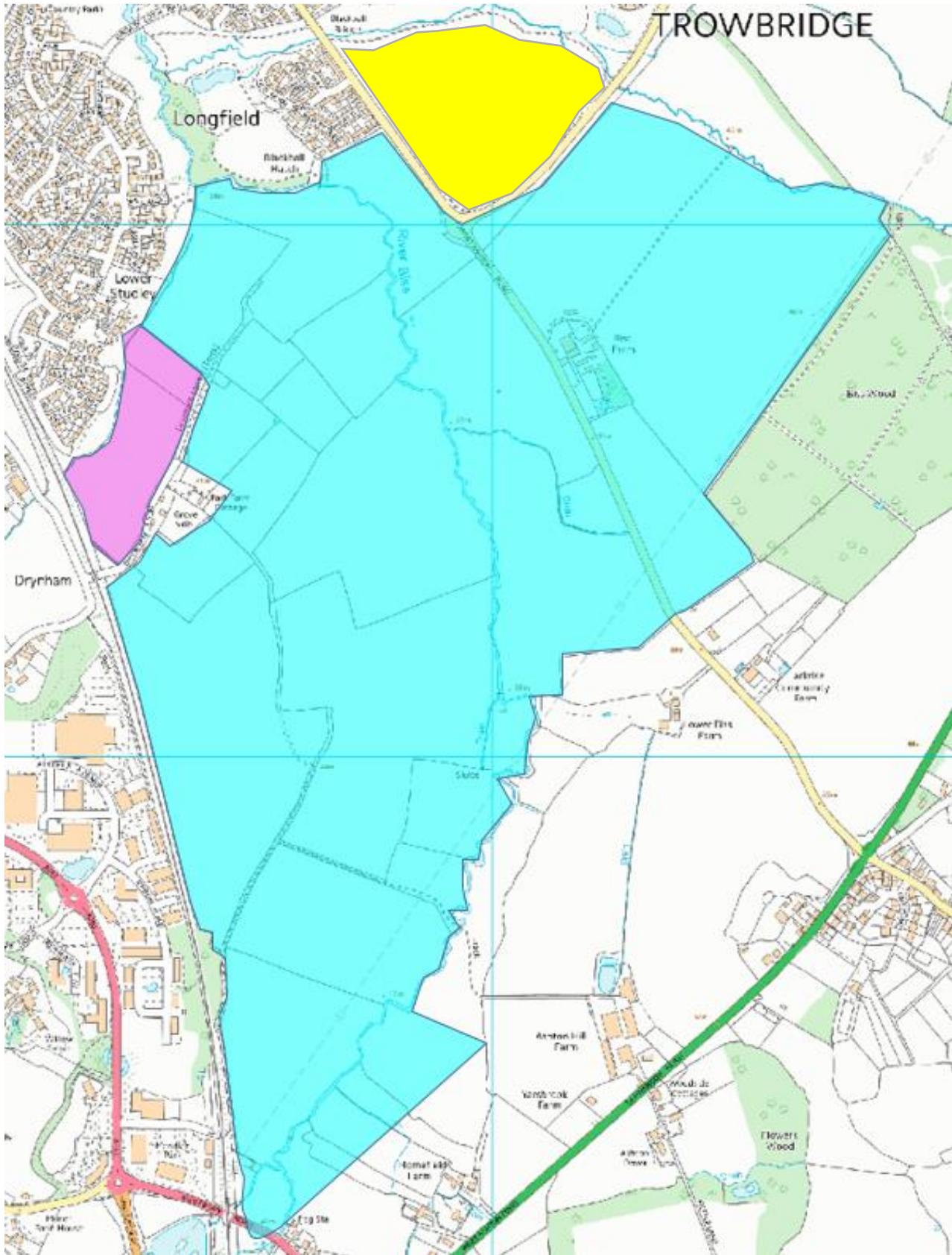
*Working with the Community*

of West Ashton Road) and A350 improvements was permitted in April 2018, S106 agreement being negotiated. (The Persimmon development area is shown in turquoise on the map below.)

**Wain Homes** applications [16/00547/FUL](#) [17/12509/FUL](#) for up to 121 houses. Concerns about access and the cycling and walking network were raised. A revised application for 91 homes was submitted in 2020. TTC continues to object particularly to access being provided from existing residential areas. (The Wain Homes development area is shown in pink on the map below.)

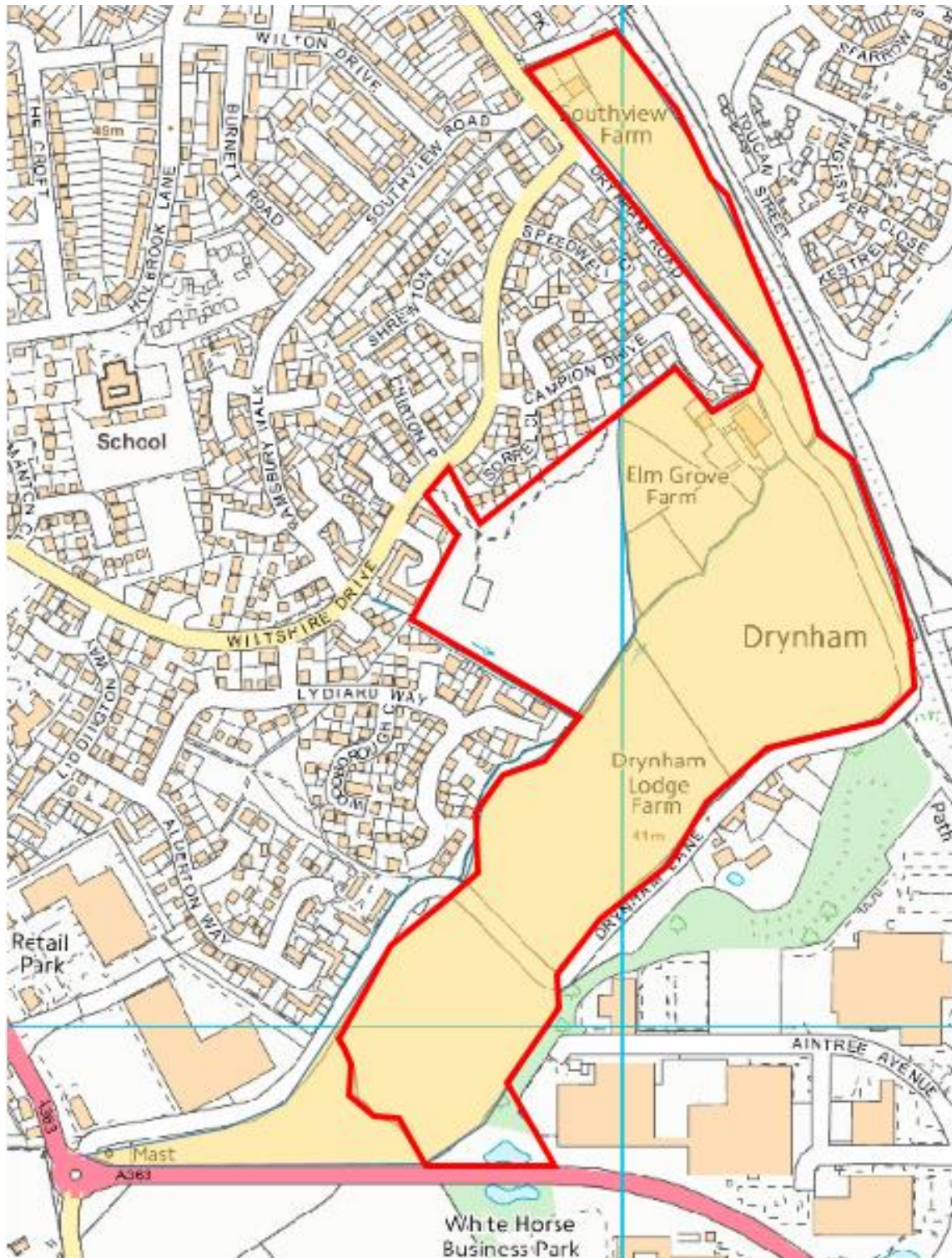
# Trowbridge Town Council

*Working with the Community*



## B. Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan (WSAP):

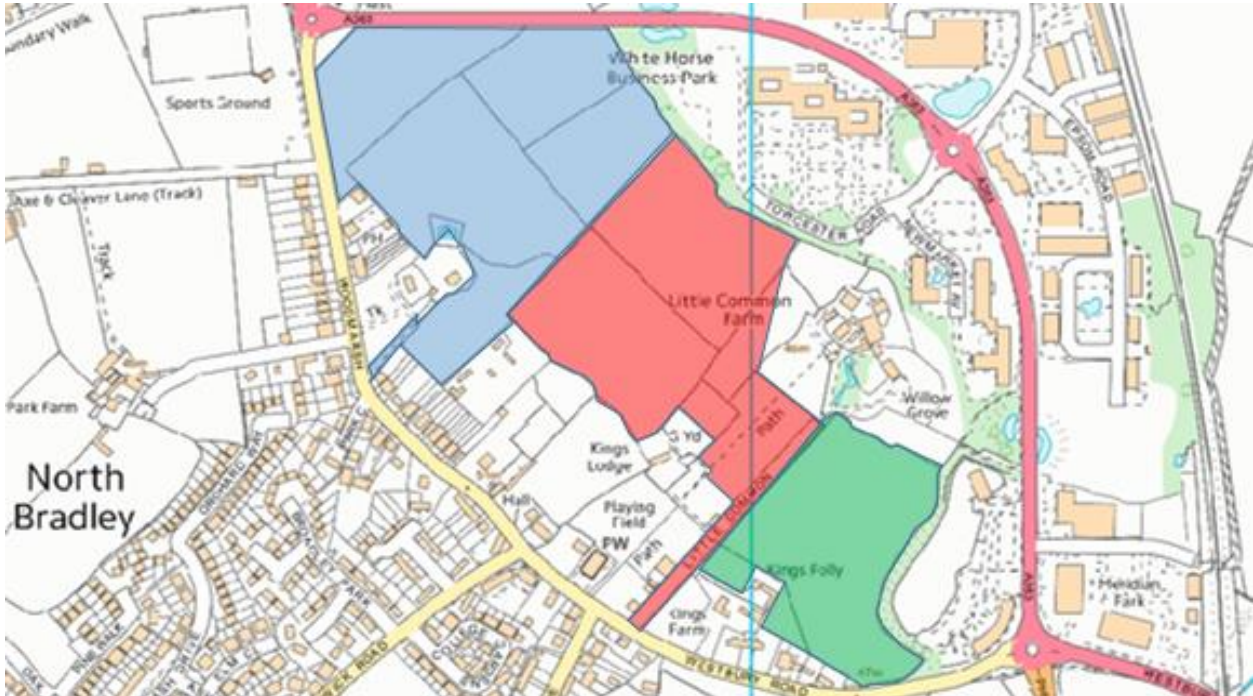
**H2.1 Elm Grove Farm** – Coulston Estates, are promoting development at Drynham Lane, west of the railway for 260 houses. TTC raised objections to the original application because it did not provide a through route to the A363 as required by WC policy. The revised application [19/11459/OUT](#) achieves this through a small corner of the White Horse Business Park land. The map shows the development allocation in yellow and the application site in red line. The Elm Grove Recreation Ground (QEII Fields in Trust) will be retained, upgraded and expanded. (There follows a map showing site 2.1.)



# Trowbridge Town Council

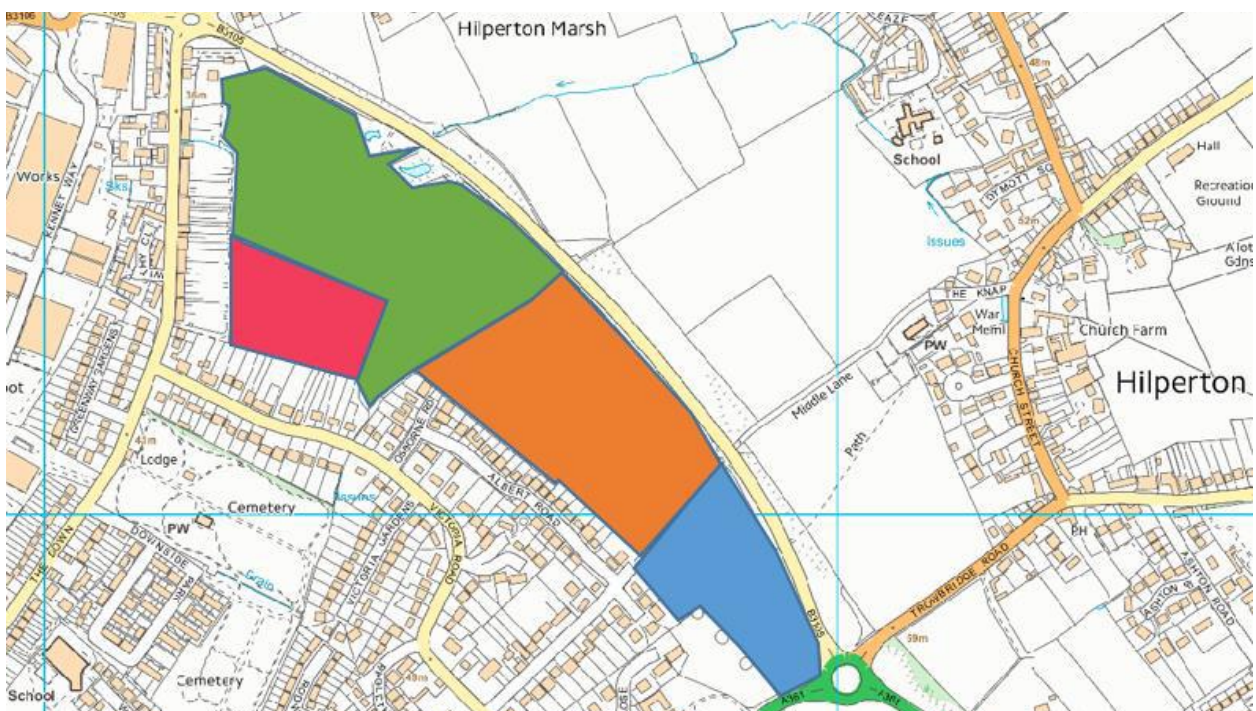
*Working with the Community*

**H2.2 Between White Horse Business Park & North Bradley** – 175 houses. [20/03641/OUT](#) has been submitted by Castlewood Property Ventures for the blue part including 100 homes and a 64 bed care home. TTC has raised significant objections. [20/05805/OUT](#) has been submitted by Vistry Homes for the red part for 100 houses TTC has raised objections. The green part is expected to



deliver 50 houses, totalling 250 for the whole site. (There follows a map showing the proposed development at site 2.2.)

**H2.3 South West of Elizabeth Way** - 355 houses in Hilpertown Parish on the town boundary. Applications and estimates suggest around 500 houses. The Green area is permitted for 165 [16/00672/OUT](#). The Blue area is subject to an application for 71 from Persimmon [20/07751/FUL](#). The



# Trowbridge Town Council

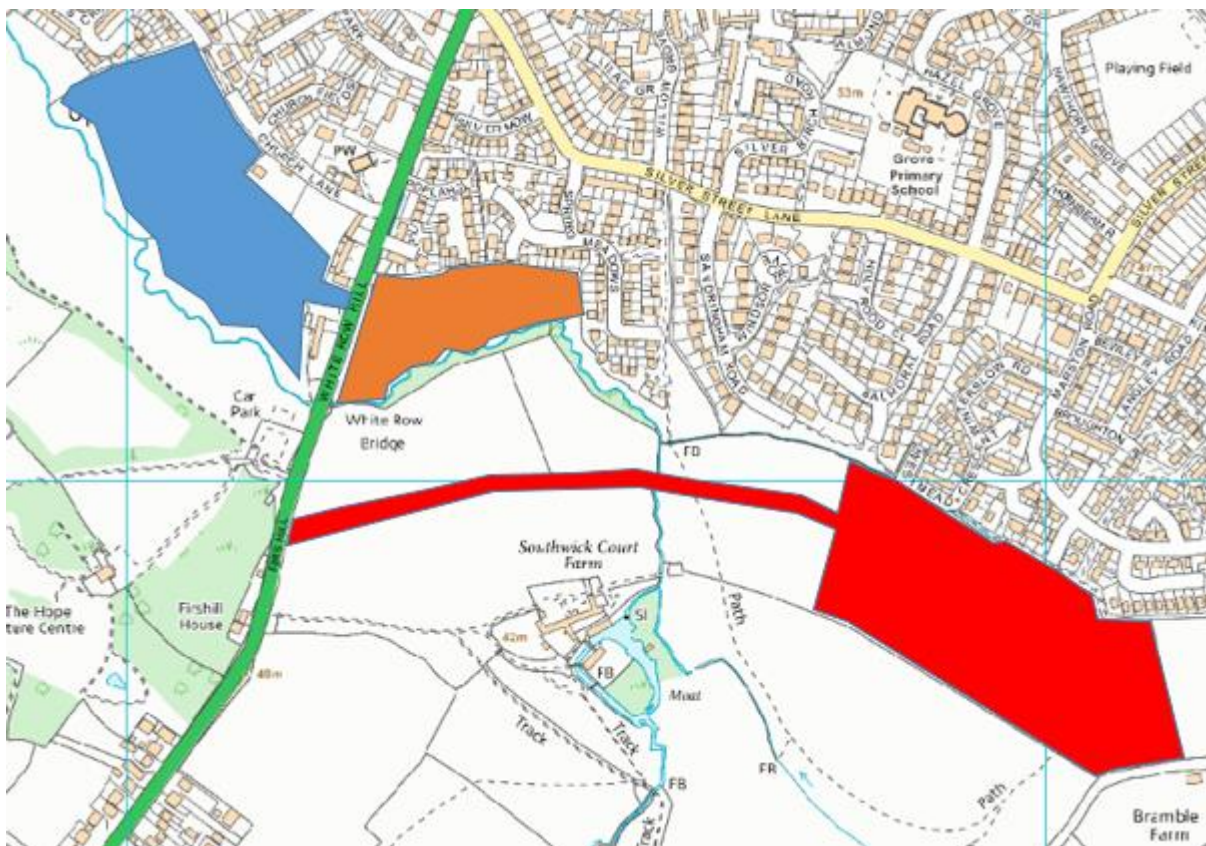
*Working with the Community*

Orange area is subject to an application for 187 from Barratt [20/09701/FUL](#). The Red area has been approved by WC for disposal and could deliver 62. (There follows a map showing the proposed development at site 2.3.)

**H2.4 Church Lane** – Accessed off Frome Road, 45 houses, outline application [18/10035/OUT](#). This is the blue area on the following map.

**H2.5 Spring Meadows** – Accessed off Frome Rd; 50 houses, Newland Homes, application [20/09659/FUL](#). This is the orange area on the following map.

**H2.6 Southwick Court** – In Southwick & North Bradley Parishes. Savills for Waddeton Park promote development between the town and Southwick Court. [www.landsouthoftrowbridge.co.uk/](http://www.landsouthoftrowbridge.co.uk/) with access off Frome Rd for 180 houses. [20/00379/OUT](#) North Bradley Neighbourhood Plan indicates approval although both North Bradley and Southwick Parish Councils have raised objections. TTC raised significant objections. This is the red area on the following map. (There follows a map of sites



2.4, 2.5 & 2.6). Revisions were considered on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

## C. Sites Discounted by Wiltshire Council

**Land South of Green Lane, Castle Mead Extension** – Persimmon [16/03420/FUL](#) withdrawn. The Trowbridge Bat Mitigation Strategy (TBMS) indicates that this site cannot proceed in the foreseeable future.

**Ashton Road** - (Steeple Ashton Parish) [Taylor Wimpey](#) 200 homes north of Green Lane Wood [16/04468/OUT](#) refused. The TBMS indicates that this site cannot proceed in the foreseeable future.

## 6.4 Wiltshire Local Plan –

**6.4.1 Core Strategy** – This was adopted by WC to cover planning for the period 2006 – 2026 and still forms the basis for future planning beyond 2026. Including the allocation at Ashton Park.

**6.4.2 Wiltshire Housing Sites Allocation Plan (WHSAP)** – was adopted in February 2020 allocating the 'H' sites indicated above.

**6.4.3 Trowbridge Bat Mitigation Strategy (TBMS)** – WC adopted the plan in February 2020, allowing applications the WHSAP to be determined.

**6.4.4 5-year Land Supply** - WC has recently reported that it can now fulfil its county wide 5-year land supply requirement following a period of shortfall, this will reduce speculative development proposals. If Ashton Park and the WHSAP sites come forward before 2024 this situation should remain.

**6.4.5 WILTSHIRE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW** - WC conducted a consultation with the public in January/February 2021. TTC responded in full to the consultation, summarised as follows:

## **Why is this proposal unsound?**

The following outlines the reasons that Trowbridge Town Council considers that these proposals for the Trowbridge Community Area are unsound, unsustainable and will damage Trowbridge.

### **Failure to abide by the Settlement Strategy**

These proposals are unsound because they are contrary to the adopted Core Strategy of Wiltshire Council and in particular the Settlement Strategy at Core Policy 1 and Core Policy 29. The proposed allocations are not 'at Trowbridge', they are at the Large Village of Hilperton and the Small Village of Staverton.

**PROPOSAL: That to make the proposals sound, Wiltshire Council should revise the Core Strategy Settlement Strategy to allow significant allocations at Large Villages which have a close functional relationship with the Principal Settlement, where the requirements of a Principal Settlement cannot be accommodated at or immediately adjacent to the Principal Settlement itself. As a result, the Trowbridge HMA housing figures in the Local Plan Review should be presented as in the table above with Trowbridge as Residual 0 and Rest of TROW HMA as Residual 2355.**

### **Failure to correctly identify the location and purpose**

The proposed sites are unsound because they are NOT located as described by Wiltshire Council.

**PROPOSAL: That to make the proposal sound, Wiltshire Council should correct it and confirm that it is not to the west of Hilperton, is detached from Trowbridge and will therefore NOT allow for greater connectivity with the wider community of Trowbridge, making it less sustainable and thus requiring that alternative options must be given significantly greater consideration. It should also be corrected to clarify which boundaries can and cannot be defined by a planning policy.**

### **Failure of the five-year land supply**

The proposal is unsound because the proposal will repeat the significant failure of the Ashton Park allocation. Ashton Park is an allocation of 2500 houses which has been delayed by many years in part due to its size and the dependence upon one promoter for the majority of the site. Wiltshire Council relied heavily on this allocation for the delivery of houses in the period 2006 - 2026 and so far not a single new house has been started at Ashton Park.

This failure to coordinate sufficiently all of the factors to deliver Ashton Park has led to speculative proposals being put forward and permitted in less sustainable locations across the county. The



reliance on another allocation of over 2500 new houses in a single/linked location will risk a further failure of the five-year housing land supply in the future, resulting in more less sustainable developments taking place in inappropriate locations.

**PROPOSAL: That to make these proposals sound, Wiltshire Council should consider a more dispersed proposal for accommodating the growth at Trowbridge which cannot be accommodated adjacent to the town itself, this should include consideration of sites at all of the Large Villages which are within 3 km of the town centre, including Southwick and North Bradley as well as Hilperton and should also include consideration of the Greenbelt adjacent to the town.**

## **Failure to account for infrastructure**

The proposals are unsound because they fail to account for recent infrastructure improvements and current proposals for infrastructure improvements as part of already allocated sites.

**PROPOSAL: That to make the proposal sound, Wiltshire Council should recognise the current and proposed infrastructure improvements around Trowbridge and make alternative proposals for future housing allocations which further develop those infrastructure improvements include allocations at North Bradley and Southwick which complement the West Ashton and Yarnbrook Relief Road and continue that route to provide a connection to the A36 which also provides significant traffic relief for Westbury.**

## **What alternatives should be considered to make the proposal sound?**

The proposals clearly do not '*represent a logical and sensible extension to the town*'. Trowbridge Town Council demands that Wiltshire Council should therefore consider a range of other options on the basis that the current proposal is unsustainable, will damage the economic and structural integrity of the town of Trowbridge and is therefore unsound. The alternative options which must be considered include the following:

### **Green Belt.**

**PROPOSAL: That to make the proposals sound, Wiltshire Council should undertake a full sustainability appraisal of sites in the Greenbelt within 2km of the town centre and determine their relative sustainability irrespective of their Green belt status, relative to a range of other sites, include the proposed sites.**

### **Southwick/North Bradley.**

**PROPOSAL: That to make these proposals sound, Wiltshire Council should consider a more dispersed proposal for accommodating the growth at Trowbridge which cannot be accommodated adjacent to the town itself, including the Green Belt. This should include consideration of sites at all of the Large Villages which are within 3 km of the town centre, including Southwick and North Bradley as well as Hilperton.**

### **Other towns.**

The allocation to the north of Hilperton is not connected to the Trowbridge Settlement boundary and it could be argued therefore that the Settlement Strategy no longer works in respect of

Trowbridge and as such more of the Trowbridge development should be allocated to Westbury and Melksham, possibly in combination with one of the outer Melksham outer by-pass routes. This may require further consideration of a revision the Settlement Strategy, recognising the capacity issues at Trowbridge and that these issues are significantly different from any such matters at the other two Principal Settlements.

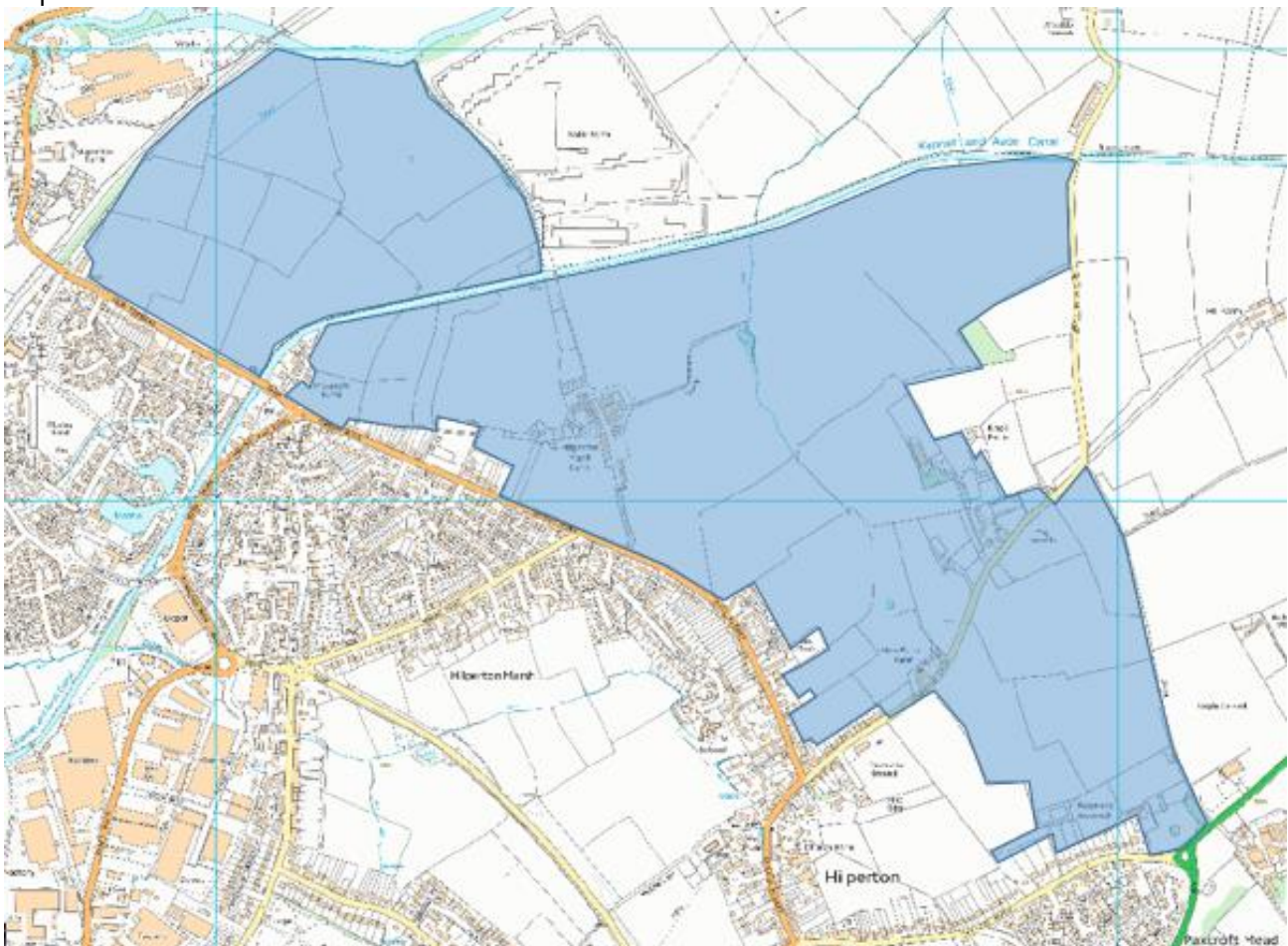
**PROPOSAL: That to make these proposals sound, Wiltshire Council, having undertaken a sustainability appraisal on sites in the Greenbelt, should consider a more dispersed policy, firstly to consider sites at all the Large Villages around Trowbridge and then it should consider other towns in the Trowbridge Housing Market Area and towns in other Housing Market Areas including Westbury and Melksham and revise the Settlement Strategy accordingly.**

### **New/expanded settlement.**

An alternative change to the Settlement Strategy would be a new or expanded settlement elsewhere in the county such as Hullavington, Pewsey or Lydeaway/Devizes in combination with proposed or existing railway stations.

**PROPOSAL: That to make these proposals sound, Wiltshire Council should consider one or more new or expanded settlements.**

There follows a map showing the proposed development at the proposed sites in Staverton and Hilperton for 2600 houses.



## **6.4 Neighbourhood Plans**

# **Trowbridge Town Council**

*Working with the Community*

**6.4.1 Trowbridge** – TTC will need to consider as part of the review of Council Strategy, whether to pursue a Neighbourhood Plan or not.

**6.4.2 North Bradley** – The referendum was held 6<sup>th</sup> May. The Town Clerk has congratulated North Bradley on the result of the referendum. As the NP Area includes those areas which have been trans-

| <b>Response</b> | <b>Votes</b> | <b>Percent of total</b> |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| YES             | 466          | 81.04%                  |
| NO              | 109          | 18.96%                  |
| Turnout         |              | 42.14%                  |

ferred into the boundary of Trowbridge from 1st April, the effect of this, combined with the 'making' of the plan, is that Trowbridge has a Neighbourhood Plan covering part of its area. And, that this area includes the majority of Ashton Park as well as a significant part of the H2.1 WHSAP Elm Grove development and also all of the H2.2 WHSAP allocation site. The two councils have already held discussions about and agreed a joint approach to various aspects of the development proposed in the area between North Bradley and the White Horse Business Park, including Little Common Lane and the proposal by one of the developers to provide a burial ground (extension) and that it may be necessary to utilise some of the CIL to support this facility. There may be other matters that the parish council and the town council would wish to work jointly on which may be a call upon part of the CIL and will be impacted by the development in these areas but may not be within the town boundary, including CATG projects on roads in the village which are impacted by traffic and pedestrian movements generated by these developments.

**6.4.3 Hilperton, Holt and Bradford on Avon** – 'Made' and form part of the Local Development Plan with the policies given full weight when assessing planning applications that affect land in these areas.

**6.4.4 West Ashton** – Progressed to Regulation 14 consultation prior to referendum.

**6.4.5 Southwick** – Now open for consultation to 12<sup>th</sup> April and will be considered at Town Development on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

**6.4.6 Staverton, Steeple Ashton and Wingfield** have not commenced the process.

## **7. TROWBRIDGE PARTNERSHIPS**

The TTC strategy says:

***Building partnerships to ensure that others are also investing in our town.***

**7.1 Trowbridge Future (TF)** – Works with partners in the town’s most deprived communities (Studley Green, Seymour/Adcroft & Longfield). TF receive a grant from TTC, utilise the Cabins at Seymour and Studley Green and operate the Shires Community Hub and the Hub at Seymour, where the new community fridge is located. Councillors may use either Hub for surgeries and should contact [tcaf@trowbridge.gov.uk](mailto:tcaf@trowbridge.gov.uk) <http://trowbridgefuture.org.uk/> Jo Trigg is the Chair and Meg Aubrey is the Project Manager. Trowbridge Future has recently been awarded £299,198 of National Lottery funding to support its work in the community.

**7.2 David Baker Foundation** – TTC is the accountable body. They develop entrepreneurial skills of young people under GOFISH and BOOMERANG. Pat Baker is the Chair. [www.gofishteam.co.uk/](http://www.gofishteam.co.uk/)

**7.3. Wiltshire Community Foundation (WCF)** - manages Cock Hill Solar Farm Community Fund (£15k/yr). They are happy to receive grant applications from the Trowbridge area. [www.wiltshirecf.org.uk/](http://www.wiltshirecf.org.uk/)

**7.4 Child Well-being project** – TF and WCF are working on a project for the county’s most deprived communities. TTC, WC and other partners are also involved.

**7.5 Trowbridge Town Trust** – makes grants to individuals and organisations [paulvingoe@hotmail.com](mailto:paulvingoe@hotmail.com)

**7.6 St James’ Trust** – makes grants to organisations [thetrust@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk](mailto:thetrust@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk)

**7.7 Chamber of Commerce** – [www.trowbridgechamber.co.uk/team](http://www.trowbridgechamber.co.uk/team) President is Kez Garner (property owner); Vice President Pepper Barney (architect).

**7.8 Trowbridge Talking News** – service for the visually impaired. The TIC is the drop off point, is due to recommence in June. Additional volunteers would be welcome, contact [info@trowbridge.gov.uk](mailto:info@trowbridge.gov.uk)

**7.9 Selwood Housing** - the main social housing provider in Trowbridge, based at the Bryer Ash Business Park. They have recently consulted on proposals for the former John Bull pub site in Studley Green.

**7.10 Trowbridge Town Hall Trust** – operates the Town Hall & Trowbridge Arts. TTC gives an annual grant (£10,000 in 2021/22). [www.trowbridgetownhall.com/](http://www.trowbridgetownhall.com/) David Lockwood is Director. Rosemary MacDonald is the Chair. Cllr Cavill is a Trustee.

**7.11 Wiltshire College** – TTC is partnering with the College to establish courses at Doric Park.

# **Trowbridge Town Council**

*Working with the Community*

## **8. WILTSHIRE**

**8.1 Wiltshire Council - Trowbridge Area Board**, includes the parishes of Hilperton, West Ashton, North Bradley and Southwick. You can view meeting details from the link: [Meeting details](#) . The Community Engagement Manager is [Liam.Cripps@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Liam.Cripps@wiltshire.gov.uk). The Area Board provides Capital Grants to local organisations as well as additional capital and revenue support for youth and healthier communities activities.

**8.1.1 CATG** – The Community Area Transport Group considers safety improvements with a delegated budget, parish & town councils contribute up to 33%. Councillors and the public can submit requests for consideration for approval by TTC. The Town Clerk can provide the necessary forms.

**8.1.2 Service Delegation & Asset Transfer (SDAT)** – There have been some suggestions that TTC has not yet commenced the process of transferring assets and services from the higher tier authority. So to clarify the situation: The following assets were transferred from West Wiltshire District Council prior to the establishment of WC (in 2009):

- The Civic Hall (2001)
- Longfield Community Centre (2004)
- The Trowbridge Information Centre (2005)

And these have been transferred from WC:

- Town Park (2012),
- Allotments, 3 sites; Home Close, Gloucester Rd and Mornington Gardens including garages (2013)
- Closed churchyards, 3 sites; St James', Holy Trinity & St John's Upper Studley (2015)
- Grit bins (2017)
- Play areas (2019)
- Bus shelters (2019).

And TTC also commenced in 2019 street care using its own sweeper and weed-ripper. The following potential transfers have been factored in to the long-term financial plan based on an estimate of around £400,000 - £500,000 per annum revenue costs commencing April 2023.

- Litter bins and emptying service
- Barrow operative street cleaning service
- Recreation grounds; Stallards including Judo Club, old Innox Hall site and Bradford Road car-park, Seymour and Elm Grove.
- Paxcroft Brook open space, incl. Cricket Ground.
- Biss Meadows.
- Grass cutting, tree maintenance and hedge trimming.
- Trowbridge Cemetery.
- Fly-tipping and Roadkill.
- Wednesday Market.

WC previously indicated that it wished to commence discussions with Trowbridge in 2020, although this schedule has been halted and the whole project is now under review. TTC would also be interested in delegation of street trading licensing. WC has indicated that it is only prepared to undertake further transfers on an all or nothing basis, although TTC has indicated that it would not

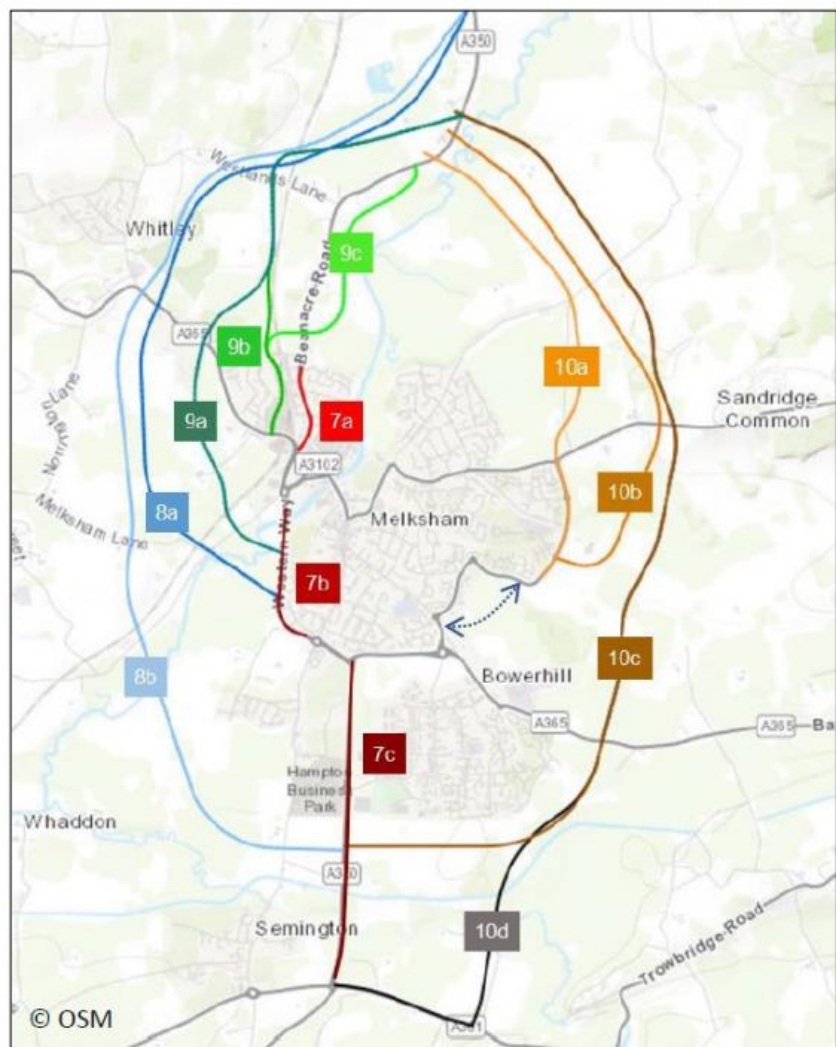
wish to take over the Down Cemetery. No cemeteries have as yet been transferred from WC to town and parish councils. Car-parks are classed as strategic assets by WC and therefore not up for transfer. The following towns have completed a full transfer: Salisbury, Devizes and Chippenham. Bradford on Avon's package has been approved by WC but has not yet been completed. The majority of town councils have not taken responsibility for assets and services from WC, including some that have had significant increases in Council Tax in recent years.

## 8.1.3 Major Highway Schemes – Melksham Bypass

At the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June Wiltshire Council considered a report into the consultation on various route options for the new [Melksham By-pass](#)/improvements. The full report is available through the link above. Extracts from the summary are as follows:

*The A350 Melksham Bypass is a Large Local Major scheme which has been awarded development funding by the Department of Transport (DfT) to take it to Outline Business Case (OBC) stage. It would be a major improvement to the important A350 route which provides vital transport links between the*

*M4, the towns of western Wiltshire and the south coast. A range of options for the scheme were the subject of a public consultation earlier this year. Further scheme development and assessment work has since been undertaken, taking into account the response to the consultation, in order to prepare a short list of options for further consultation. There were 1,018 responses to the public consultation questionnaire, the majority of which were from individuals (962) with a small number from businesses or organisations (42). Most of the responses were local from Melksham or within five miles. There were also 175 written and email responses to the consultation. The long eastern bypass (Option 10c) appears to offer good value for money and with suitable mitigation measures could offer a feasible route and following the sifting process of the options it is*



*proposed that this one should be developed further. It is proposed to carry out further consultation on the eastern route (Option 10c) and potential variants of the route at the northern end. Various detailed comments were received in connection with the scheme, proposed junctions, landscaping and rights of way which will be explored in more detail in the next stage of the design and consultation process.*

**8.2 Health Services** - (BSWCCG) is responsible for commissioning 'Primary Care' services to people registered with local GPs. Their latest newsletter is available from: [BSW Together](#). A range of services including clinics, maternity and minor injuries are provided at 'Trowbridge Hospital'. It is currently proposed that these services will transfer to a new build facility adjacent to the hospital and Trowbridge Health Centre. An outline planning application has been permitted and a detailed Reserved Matters planning application has been submitted [21/01211/REM](#).

**8.2.1 GPs** There are two practices in Trowbridge; Lovemead Group Practice (LGP), based at Roundstone Surgery [www.roundstonesurgery.co.uk/](http://www.roundstonesurgery.co.uk/) and Trowbridge Health Centre (THC) at Seymour with a branch at Wingfield Road [www.trowbridgehealthcentre.com/](http://www.trowbridgehealthcentre.com/) .

**8.3 Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service** – [www.dwfire.org.uk](http://www.dwfire.org.uk)

**8.4 Wiltshire Police** – Insp. Gill Hughes is section Head, Trowbridge. Sgt Charly Chilton will report regularly to Full Council meetings.

**8.4.1 Community Messaging** - Councillors and the public are urged to sign up for details of charges and crimes reported.

**8.4.2 101** - To report non-emergency crimes use 101 or [www.wiltshire.police.uk/Report a crime](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk/Report_a_crime)

**8.4.3 StreetLink** - If anyone is **Rough Sleeping** reports should be made to StreetLink which will be passed on to the team at WC. All rough sleepers referred are offered a bed for the night and are required to engage with their originating local council. Some of them decide not to accept the offer.

**8.5 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils** - **WALC** is the county association for town & parish councils, affiliated to NALC the National Association. TTC is a member of both.

**8.5.1 Wiltshire Super Councils Network** – Includes those NALC members with a budget over £1million: Salisbury, Chippenham, Devizes, Calne, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon North and Swindon South. Online meetings have been taking place.

**8.6 Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP)** – has withdrawn funding for the West Ashton relief road due to delays in progress, WC has confirmed that it will fund the gap.

**8.7 Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)** – TTC pays the fee for the Clerk to be a member of SLCC, which provides training and advice. The Town Clerk is a Director and has recently been appointed the Vice-Chairman of SLCC and is also a Fellow.