Town Clerk's Report 30th April 2014 to Policy & Resources Committee 6th May 2014

1. <u>POLICY</u>

1.1 Dept. of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) - Making It Easier To Set Up Parish Councils (AGENDA ITEM 7) – The Committee is asked to consider responding to the consultation currently being undertaken by DCLG (closes 22nd May) for a legislative reform order changing the thresholds for requesting creation of parish councils in un-parished areas.

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297813/Co nsultation on a proposal to use a Legislative Reform Order for making it easier t o set up a town and parish council.pdf

Town Clerk's RECOMMENDATION:

That Trowbridge Town Council responds to the consultation 'Making it easier to set up a town and parish council', welcoming the proposals being made by government. This reform will give opportunities to more communities to reap the benefits of a truly local first tier of government.

1.2 Wiltshire Council - Core Strategy (AGENDA ITEM 8) – The committee is asked to consider the proposed modifications to the Core Strategy contained in the extracts at Appendix A (Extract From Wiltshire Core Strategy, Sustainability Appraisal Report, Addendum, April 2014) and Appendix B (Extract From Resulting proposed Core Strategy) to this report and their impact upon the Trowbridge Community Area Town Clerk's RECOMMENDATION:

That Trowbridge Town Council;

- a) Supports the changes proposed to Core Policy 29, including the increase in the number of new homes proposed to be built around the town of Trowbridge to 7000, and that the additional 950 dwellings will be developed at the town identified in the Housing Site Allocations DPD, only once improved secondary school provision is in place toward the end of the plan period (2006-2026) and there has been a further assessment of effects on protected bat species and their habitats within Natura 2000 sites to ensure they are properly safeguarded.
- b) Supports Option 2 in the proposed change to Core Policy 43 'Providing affordable homes', which places Trowbridge within the 30% of affordable homes zone which is based on geographic disparities across the county in terms of residual land values.
- **1.3 Wiltshire Council Review of Local Transport Plan Car Parking Strategy** (AGENDA ITEM 9) - Wiltshire Council is embarking on a countywide review of its Local Transport Plan Car Parking Strategy. The review will focus on parking charges and management, including the potential use of new technologies and the future role of local communities. The review will also consider parking standards, residents'

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parking zones and coach parking. A public consultation will be undertaken in Autumn 2014. To help inform the review, we have produced a pre-consultation scoping document which can be accessed via our consultation portal - <u>http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal</u>.

To consider delegating responsibility to respond to the pre-consultation scoping phase of Wiltshire Council's review of Car Parking Strategy to the Town Clerk in consultation with Councillors, the Chamber of Commerce and other interested groups.

1.4 Wiltshire Council - Community Governance Review – Wiltshire Council are progressing the Review of Parishes and Parish boundaries, the Town Council has submitted a report to the review suggesting the need for revisions to the boundary between the town and neighbouring parishes in eight locations, copies of the report are available from the Town Clerk on request.

2. <u>FINANCE</u>

- **2.1 Local Gov't Act S150(5), Orders For Payment** Following the adoption of this in parliament the RFO will be bringing forward proposals to implement electronic banking and changes to Financial Regulations.
- **2.2 Full Year Financial Performance 2013/14** At the end of the third quarter we reported that the council was overspent on budget by £67k. At the end of the financial year we have been able to recover that position slightly, and preliminary results show an overspend of less than £60k for the full year. This includes pressure from increased pension costs due to auto-enrolment, the final payment to Beard for the Civic Centre which was over £50k, un-budgeted investment in the Town Park, the Discover TROWBRIDGE Branding and the Civic Centre, some of which we have been able to fund from earmarked reserves. The end of year accounts are being prepared for approval on 24th June.
- **2.3 Mayor's Budget (AGENDA ITEM 10a)** Following discussions with a number of councillors it is clear that there is a need to clarify the situation regarding the Mayor's Budget and arrangements for financial support to the Mayor's Charities. A Mayor's Budget Policy has therefore been drafted for consideration by the committee.

3. <u>PERSONNEL</u>

- **3.1 Starters -** Joanne Barnes, Nicole Evans and Tom North start on 1st May as Apprentice Sports Coaches 30 hours. Anthony Andrews joins on 5th May 2014 and Marc Traylor on 1st June as Sports Coaches 37 hours
- **3.2** Leavers Scott Williams and Jason Henley, both Sports Coaches have left recently.
- **3.3 Vacancies** There is a vacancy for a Civic Centre Supervisor following the resignation of Carly Hodgson.

4. <u>SERVICES</u>

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4.1 MUSEUM & TOURISM – The next committee meeting is 3rd June at 6:30pm

4.1.1 Museum Project – The Options Appraisal has now been received and is being considered, resulting from which a report and recommendation will be presented to Full Council on 20th May, identifying which is the preferred option for our application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. The two main options which facilitate the expansion of the Museum are a move to Courtfield House or an expansion into two floors at our current site in the Shires. The owner of Courtfield House, Mrs Pearce is being kept up to date with progress.

4.1.2 Holiday Activities - operated during the Easter break and will run during half term.

4.1.3 Cloth Road Arts – We are supporting the Cloth Road Arts week 3rd – 11th May. <u>http://clothroadartists.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/craw-brochure-2014.pdf</u>

4.1.4 Magna Carta 800 1215-2015 – Wiltshire is the only county where it is possible to visit an original copy of the Charter and a Baron Town. Our main event will be held in the Park on the 24th/25th/26th July 2015. We will also host a conference on Saturday 25th April.

4.1.5 Accreditation – We are currently going through the process of reaccreditation of the Museum.

4.2 LEISURE SERVICES - The next committee meeting is 22nd July 2014 at 6:30pm

4.2.1 Educ8 - We are working in partnership with Educ8 to provide training at Court Mills for a group of young people as an alternative to school. The contract runs until July.

4.2.2 Sports Roadshow – Will operate once again during the summer holidays, focussed on the Park this year.

4.2.3 Fun Days – Fun Days operated at Easter and will run again in May half term.

4.2.4 Swimming - Over 300 children per week will be taught swimming from April 2014- July 2014 provided in partnership with Newtown School.

4.2.5 Sports and Play Festival - On Saturday June 7th thousands of people will once again be able to enjoy our Festival in Trowbridge Park which provides a FREE, safe and engaging day for children and parents to try out a range of sports and activities.

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4.2.6 Trowbridge Sports Forum – The Forum now has 13 local sports clubs discussing and implementing projects and plans for the future for the local community.

4.2.8 Chamber of Commerce Service Excellence Awards – Active Trowbridge was runner up for Service Provider of the Year.

4.2.9 Sports Pitches Project – Officers held a meeting with Sport England on Monday 28th April, we were also joined by Steve Boocock from Wiltshire & Swindon Sport (WASP) and Mark Young from the Football Association Wiltshire (FA). Proposal for the development of the land at Devizes Road will be brought forward in line with funding availability. Initial thoughts are that we would look to develop an all-weather pitch and changing facilities alongside the new Rugby Club. Decisions regarding any future investment at Woodmarsh and other sites will be considered alongside this, subject to agreements with external funders including the Football Foundation.

4.2.10 Trowbridge Rugby Club – How will our local team fair against Leek at Twickenham on Sunday 4th May in the final of the Intermediate Cup competition?

4.3 DIRECT SERVICES – The next committee meeting is 27th May.

4.3.1 Civic Centre – The Management Board will meet on 15th May.

4.3.2 Trowbridge Information Centre – **Trowbridge Talking News** – This service is now operational at the TIC.

4.3.3 Town Park – New agreements have been signed with the Bowls Club and with the Kiosk concession operator.

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Bandstand – Installation of the fencing is proceeding and we are seeking discussions with the young people regarding long term shelter options.

4.3.4 Events – The Lions May Fayre takes place on Saturday 3rd May in Fore Street, any help from councillors on the Town Council Stand would be welcome.

4.3.5 Trowbridge In Bloom – Trowbridge in Bloom will also be having a stand at the May Fayre to promote the launch of the TIB competitions for 2014 and Summer Open Gardens. We are hosting the South West In Bloom (SWiB) Awards at the Civic Centre on 18th September. Work is underway to ensure the proposed route for judging the town in early July is ready for its entry into the SWiB competition. The group is working to support the Friends of Trowbridge Park in their initiative to plant up two community garden areas within the Park. A community group is also being sought to refurbish and maintain the raised beds at Court Mills – anyone interested Neighbourhoods should contact the Officer to discuss further nick.allford@trowbridge.gov.uk

4.3.6 Studley Green Community Centre – A new 16 year lease is with the new trustees and the committee, ready for finalising, to commence on 1^{st} July.

4.3.7 Lambrok Playing Fields and Changing Rooms – A new 16 year lease is with Trowbridge Wanderers Football Club, ready for finalising, to commence on 1st July and we are in discussion regarding maintenance of the pitches and representation on the Community Centre committee. The club will be installing a rail around one of the pitches and using mobile dugouts next season.

4.3.8 Allotments – The transfer of the three sites at Gloucester Road, Mornington Gardens and Home Close Farm to the Town Council was completed on 1st April and a new lease has been signed with the Gloucester Road Allotment Association. The garages at Mornington Gardens were also transferred and are now fully let.

4.3.9 Grounds Maintenance – Revised specifications have been sent to potential contractors and their quotations are due to be received for a decision to be confirmed at the committee meeting on 27th May.

4.3.10 Land at Devizes Road – English Heritage has asked to undertake some archaeological tests on the land, which we are discussing with them.

5. MARKETING & EVENTS

- **5.1 Newsletter** We continue to publish the newsletter as part of the Trowbridge Magazine in May, July, September and November 2014.
- **5.2** Calendar of Events (please see attached at the end of the report)
- **5.3 Website** The Town Council web-site <u>www.trowbridge.gov.uk</u> provides information about all council activities and services as well as links to other Trowbridge web-sites. Our other web-sites are: <u>www.trowbridgecivic.co.uk</u> for information about the Civic Centre, events and activities & <u>www.trowbridgemuseum.co.uk</u> for the Museum.
- **5.4 Armed Forces Weekend** The weekend will commence on Saturday 28th June with the award of Freedom of the town to the Royal Artillery, followed by a parade through the town with bayonets fixed. We are very grateful to Wiltshire Council's Area Board for supporting the event to commemorate the start of the First World

War with a grant of £1,000 The Town Council is supporting the weekend with a grant of £7,000

5.5 DISCOVER Trowbridge – Our design consultant team have further developed the branding and produced a final design. Following consultation with members of the council this has been adopted and will now be implemented.



- 6. **TOWN DEVELOPMENT** Committee meets 13th May and 3rd June.
- **6.1 Transforming Trowbridge** <u>www.transformingtrowbridge.org.uk</u> Established by Wiltshire Council, a partnership to support regeneration of the town centre is leading on development of the Masterplan. The next meeting of the Board is on 22nd May.

6.1.1 Masterplan – The Masterplan seeks to ensure that the town centre develops in a sustainable way, providing a range of facilities and services which are linked together. The Our Place bid seeks to consider how the Masterplan could be adopted as a Neighbourhood Plan for the town.

- **6.2 Business Improvement District (BID) -** Consultants Mosaic are finalising the feasibility study.
- 6.3 Town Centre Developments

St Stephen's Place – Frankie & Benny's is now open with applications for Dean's Diner and Chiquito progressing.

Cradle Bridge – Former Peter Black site is for sale, Wiltshire Council's bid was not accepted. No confirmation of the purchaser is available.

Bowyers – appeal for the original application was granted by the Inspector, we await confirmation of which permission will be developed alongside a Morrisons supermarket.

Court Street – the development of a mixed use office and residential scheme on the former Tremans Factory site has commenced by Ashford Homes.

Retail – T K Maxx are due to move next door to Knees in Bradley Road.

6.4 Housing – The following major sites are under development, totalling over 1,200 houses.

H9 Southview Farm, Wain Homes, 300 houses for sale.

H11 Castle Mead, Persimmon & Charles Church 650 houses for sale, the link road to West Ashton Rd is now complete and the new Primary School is taking shape. Work on the Hilperton Gap Relief Rd between Leap Gate and Canal Road should commence this year.

H8d Brook Meadow, Barratt & Taylor Wimpey 150 houses for sale.

H8c The Pastures off Parsonage Way, Abbey New Homes 180 houses for sale.

St James' Gardens off Union Street, Newland Homes 75 houses all SOLD.

Centenary Court, Yeoman Way, social housing site now commenced.

Rugby Club, Green Lane – Green Square, 90 houses now commenced.

Ashton Park – Mainly in West Ashton and North Bradley Parishes, proposes around 2,500 houses. Consultation events were held recently, including details of the proposed improvements to the A350 around West Ashton cross roads and Yarnbrook. An application is expected once the Core Strategy Inspectors Report has been published. Further briefings have been held for town and parish council representatives.

6.5 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – The Town Council has responded to the recent consultation on the CIL Charging Schedule.

6.5.1 Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) - Items included in the IDP will be funded by the CIL. The Town Council will need to consider the IDP as part of the developing Council Strategy to ensure that items required by the community are included. Such items would include elements identified in the Masterplan as well as; allotments, cemetery, play areas, highways, cycle routes and sports pitches, for which some money from developers through Section 106 contributions is already available. The IDP should be reviewed by Wiltshire Council on an annual basis.

6.6 Rail Services –Significant improvements to the Railway Station Forecourts are expected this year, which have been planned in conjunction with the developers of the Bowyer's site.

7. <u>PARTNERSHIP</u>

- **7.1 OUR PLACE** The Town Council's bid to 'Our Place' has been successful at the first getting ready stage and we will shortly be submitting our Development Plan for the Getting Going stage. We have received a £3,000 grant which will facilitate all of the partners including Wiltshire Council and the Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group working together to plan for the future of our town centre. We will also receive consultant support. If we are successful at the second stage we could receive £7,000 to £20,000 of additional funding. See NHS below.
- **7.2 Wiltshire Council** The parish newsletter is now published weekly and is circulated to members. <u>www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/parishnewsletterhome.htm</u>

7.1.1 Area Board – The next meeting is on 15th May at the Civic Centre. The Community Area Web Site is operational at www.trowbridge.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk

7.1.2 Community Area Transport Group (CATG) – Next meeting Thurs 8th May 2pm at the Civic Centre.

7.1.3 Stallard Recreation Ground Changing Rooms – This facility on Innox Rd will be implemented by Wiltshire Council, with a contribution from the Town Council, once football foundation money is confirmed.

7.1.4 Enterprise Wiltshire – A review meeting was held at County Hall on 6th March. It is expected that EW will link more closely to the LEP (See below) and to the Transforming Trowbridge Board.

7.1.5 Campus – Following the second consultation we now await confirmation regarding the funding, location and timescales for implementation of the Trowbridge Campus plans. The Campus will be a significant element of the Our Place project and the links to health facilities. Councillor Brice has also joined the Campus COB.

7.1.6 Review of Positive Leisure-Time Activities for Young People – Wiltshire Council is still consulting on the future of Youth Services, the review offers four options, with a clear steer that a local delivery solution with Area Board style grant funding for activities is their preferred choice. The Town Council responded in March, emphasising the need for the allocation of funds to Community Areas to be fair and transparent.

cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/documents/b23261/Agenda%20Supplement%20No.%202%2021
st-Jan-014%2010.30%20Cabinet.pdf?T=9

7.1.7 Joint Strategic Assessment – This was reviewed at an evening event at County Hall on 3rd April, a very productive session.

7.3	Trowbridge Community Area Future (TCAF) – <u>http://tcafuture.wordpress.com/</u>			rdpress.com/	
	Safer Trowbridge	10 th May	10.00am	Civic Centre	
	TCAF Steering Group Meeting	12 th May	4.00pm	Civic	
	Centre				
	TCAF Culture	9 th June	7.00p	7.00pm	
	Civic Centre				
	TCAF Health & Social Care	11 th June	12.30pm	Civic Centre	

- **7.4 Collaborative Schools Ltd (CSL)** The 'Every Child Matters' group of CSL operates as the Education Theme Group of TCAF. Next meeting Friday 16th May 09:30 John of Gaunt Hub. The Town Clerk has been invited to be a director for the free school being established by Collaborative Schools to provide an alternative for those pupils otherwise be excluded.
- 7.5 Police and Community Safety Inspector Chris Chammings will give a written report to Full Council meetings, including details of neighbourhood teams, having superseded Inspector Lisette Harvey who has relocated to a more strategic role.
 Commissioner Angus MacPherson is holding a 'Meet the Commissioner' event in

Trowbridge on Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 5.30pm at County Hall, Trowbridge. All

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members are encouraged to attend. View <u>http://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/Take-Part/Meet-the-Commissioner.aspx</u> for notes of his meeting held in Chippenham.

- **7.6 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC)** Newsletters are regularly circulated or available on their website <u>www.wiltshire-alc.org.uk</u>
- **7.7 NHS** The application for the **Bradcroft surgery** was approved by Wiltshire Council in May subject to a S106 agreement, including the provision of replacement cricket facilities. A meeting was held recently with representatives of the four GP practices, Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group and local representatives of NHS England as well as Colin Kay, Chair of the Campus Shadow Operations Board and the Town Clerk. The result of this meeting was that there is no direct link between the decision to proceed with the combined Adcroft/Bradford Road surgery development, but that NHS Property Services Ltd have to sign off the sale of the land and NHS England have to confirm the level of demand for the business case to facilitate the commercial finance.

The meeting also confirmed that there will be a remaining deficit in accommodation to provide primary health care facilities in the town, mainly related to Lovemead practice and CCG services which they would wish to see provided in the Campus. Since the meeting a letter of confirmation has been sent to Wiltshire Council requesting space in the Campus. Full details are included in the briefing produced by NHS and attached as Appendix C.

7.8 Swindon/Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership - The Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) has now been submitted to Government. It proposes that further investment is made available to secure future growth in the local economy. The Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan March 2014 and supporting evidence is now available in full via either of these links <u>SEP http://www.swlep.biz/docs/1</u>

8. <u>CIVIC & DEMOCRATIC ACTIVITIES</u>

8.1 Council Meeting Dates. Council and committee meetings for the next few months are:

Tuesday 6 th May	Policy & Resources
Tuesday 13 th May	Town Development
Tuesday 20 th May	ANNUAL FULL COUNCIL
Tuesday 27 th May	Direct Services
Tuesday 3 rd June	Museum & Tourism (6.30pm)
Tuesday 3 rd June	Town Development
Tuesday 10 th June	NO MEETING
Tuesday 17 th June	NO MEETING
Tuesday 24 th June	FULL COUNCIL EXTRA (Accounts)
Tuesday 24 th June	Policy & Resources (to follow at approx. 7:10pm)

8.2 Twinning - The Mayor of Leer, Germany, Mr Wolfgang Kellner, has been invited by the Wiltshire Armed Forces & Veterans Committee, to attend the Freedom March and weekend events on Sat 28th & Sunday 29th June, during the official visit of a

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delegation from Stadt Leer to Trowbridge. In total 51 visitors will come to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the signing of the twinning agreement between the two towns. A Charter Dinner will be held at the Civic Centre, sponsored by Apetito; the itinerary includes a visit to Weymouth, and incorporates an option to attend the Motown event at the Civic Centre on Saturday 28th June 2014.

- **8.3** The Annual Town Meeting and Town Gathering were held on Tuesday 29th April.
- **8.4 The Annual Civic Service** is being held on Sunday 3rd August to coincide with the national commemoration of the outbreak of the Great War.

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

E: <u>info@trowbridge.gov.uk</u> T: 01225 765072 @Trowbridgegov #Trowbridge W: <u>www.trowbridge.gov.uk</u> www.trowbridgecivic.co.uk www.trowbridgemuseum.co.uk

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For further event details, please click on links where applicable

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	Active Trowbridge: Extreme Sports 5:30-7:00	John of Gaunt
Monday	<u>Ginger Jive</u>	Civic Centre
,	Town Team & Wiltshire Council: Weekly Street Market	Fore Street
2 nd & 4 th Fri	Farmers Market	Fore Street
2 nd Sunday	<u>Sunday Club</u>	Civic Centre
Various	Blood Donor Sessions	Civic Centre

MAY

3	Lions May Fayre including Town Council Stand	Fore Street
3	Cow Parsley presents <u>Back to Tac</u> school disco	Civic Centre
3-11	<u>Cloth Road Artists</u>	incl. Museum
3 May – 27 Sept	' <u>Mockingbird</u> ' Exhibition	Museum
10	Comedy Live at the Civic – <u>Milton Jones</u>	Civic Centre
27-30	Active Trowbridge Fun Days	Walwayne Court
28	Love Your Local Market event	Fore Street
30	Country Superstars Experience	Civic Centre

JUNE

7	<u>Sports and Play Festival</u> including Town Council Stand	Town Park	
14	Pro Evolution Wrestling	Civic Centre	
<i>2</i> 8	<u>Motown Live at the Civic - Soulside</u>	Civic Centre	
28 & 29	Wiltshire Armed Forces and Veterans Weekend and Freedom	Freedom Town Park	
20 0 29	Parade for Royal Artillery		
20	FREE RARKING INLAND COUNCIL CAR RARKS		

28 FREE PARKING IN ALL COUNCIL CAR PARKS

JULY

13	<u> Trowbridge In Bloom – Summer Open Gardens event</u>	Various
18	<u>Olly Murs Tribute Show</u>	Civic Centre
25 July	Active Trowbridge Sports Roadshow	Town Park

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(to 30 Aug)

AUGUST

3	Civic Service	St James'
16	Live at the Civic -	Civic Centre
17	Trowbridge Carnival Soap-Box Derby	Castle Street
30	TIB – Home Produce Fayre,	Fore Street
	SEPTEMBER	
6	Carnival Country Fayre including Town Council Stand.	Town Park
7	Cow Parsley presents – <u>Wiltshire Weddings</u>	Civic Centre
	OCTOBER	
4	Comedy Live at the Civic -	Civic Centre
11	Trowbridge Apple Festival	Courtfield House
17 Oct (to 2 Nov)	Trowbridge Arts Festival	Various
18	Trowbridge Carnival Procession	Town Centre
17/18 & 24/25	Ladies Nights	Civic Centre
29	Teen Market 3pm-8pm	Fore Street
31	Halloween Disco	Civic Centre
	NOVEMBER	
1	Halloween Ball	Civic Centre
9	Remembrance Service & Parade	St James' & Park
22	Comedy Live at the Civic -	Civic Centre
29	Christmas Lights Switch on and Craft Fayre	Various
29	FREE PARKING IN ALL COUNCIL CAR PARKS	
	DECEMBER	
11/12/13 18/19/20	Christmas Party Nights	Civic Centre
27	Music – Motown, Soulside	Civic Centre
31	New Year's Eve Disco	Civic Centre
	2015 JULY	
24, 25, 26	MAGNA CARTA 800 Charter Fair	Various
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