

CABINET

MINUTES of a MEETING held in COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNCIL OFFICES,
MONKTON PARK, CHIPPENHAM, SN15 1ER on Thursday, 9 July 2015.

Cllr Jane Scott OBE	Leader of the Council
Cllr John Thomson	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband
Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philipe	Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Skills and Strategic Transport
Cllr Keith Humphries	Cabinet Member for Health (including Public Health) and Adult Social Care
Cllr Laura Mayes	Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Cllr Jonathon Seed	Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding
Cllr Toby Sturgis	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning (strategic and development management), Property, Waste and Strategic Housing
Cllr Dick Tonge	Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance, Risk, Systems Thinking, Procurement and Welfare Reform
Also in Attendance:	Cllr Chris Caswill, Wiltshire Council Cllr Christine Crisp

Key Decisions Matters defined as 'Key' Decisions and included in the Council's Forward Work Plan are shown as 

75 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Stuart Wheeler.

76 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor John Thomson declared that he had, 20 years ago, entered into a property deal with a Mr Owen Inskip – who is a consultee on Draft Chippenham Sites Allocation Plan, but that this transaction was for a property outside of Wiltshire.

77 **Leader's announcements**

There were no Leader's announcements.

78 **Public participation and Questions from Councillors**

The Leader drew the meetings attention to the questions and answers circulated in the supplement. She reiterated that the Cabinet was making a recommendation to Council which would consider it the following week.

The Leader invited those attending in person to present their questions and to ask any supplementary questions.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Cllr Ian James, that a more detailed flood risk assessment would be expected to be produced when a planning application was submitted, this would then be considered by the Environment Agency as the statutory consultee.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Andrew Stevenson, that the Council would fully take into account the advice of the Environment Agency as to the appropriate model to use when assessing flood risk.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Richard Hames, that he was not aware of the Council withholding any land.

Councillor Whitehead stated, in response to a supplementary question from Iris Thompson, that the Council was satisfied with the proposals as designed, and that their consultants had reviewed the design and given a verbal response to the Council that they were satisfied with the proposal. The Council would review the situation once the proposals had been implemented.

Councillor Scott stated, in response to a supplementary question from Mr Rhodes, that she would ask officers to investigate the status of the flood defence bund at Monkton Park with regard to its ownership and responsibility for maintenance, and as to whether it may be possible to seek off-site contributions from developers.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Kim Stuckey, that he was not aware of any proposed designs for possible road bridges so was not able to comment on their possible impacts.

Councillor Sturgis reiterated, in response to a supplementary question from Andrew Stevenson, that a more detailed flood risk assessment would be expected to be produced following the submission of a planning application. This would then be considered by the Environment Agency as the statutory consultee. Cllr Scott asked that officers organise a meeting with some members of the public in order to provide them with clarification about the flooding evidence that had informed the plan's proposals and explain how the planning process manages flood risks. It was also noted that the Environment Agency would be made aware, if they were not so already, of any drainage systems already installed on the Hardens Farm site.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Helen Stuckey, that Highways Agency was satisfied with the model used and evidence papers could be amended to record this.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Helen Stuckey, that he would respond in writing to the suggestion that part of site D with a southern link road would be better placed to promote economic growth than the proposals made in the report.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Joy Baker, that it was acceptable to build on land classified as Zone One in the classification of flood risk. It was agreed that the full wording of policy NPPF would be made available to all Councillors.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Richard Hames, that it was his expectation that the link road could be funded by the developments without the need to seek funding from third parties.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Ben Turner, that he felt that the written response given was sufficient and that he was unable to give an indicative timeframe.

Councillor Scott stated, in response to an issue raised by Steve Perry, that any references to consultees as being a protest group in the consultation report would be amended.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Ian Humphrey, that he did not have detailed information about the ability to use the specific emergency access point that was referred to near Monkton Park, but that this would be investigated further as appropriate.

Councillor Sturgis responded to supplementary questions from Cllr Chris Caswill as follows:

- That Cabinet would make recommendations that would be considered by Council;
- That officers contacted land owners in accordance with the Council's policy;
- That the Barrow Farm site did not score well when considered against the agreed criteria;
- That there were no new sites put forward for consideration;
- That the Environment Agency had, as part of their response to the consultation, suggested that the Plan make reference to areas for flood mitigation and that this amendment has been proposed;
- That the traffic assessment had been a high level assessment, and more detailed work would be done during the planning application stage, and

that officers did not agree with the assertion that some of the data had been double-counted;

- That commercial transport providers were reluctant to create bus services involving new corridors;
- That the traffic model had shown that, overall, the development should reduce congestion by improving road access in and out of the Monkton Park area.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a supplementary question from Francis Morland, that when housing land supply information was updated then the results of Inspectors decisions would be taken into account.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a question, received after the deadline, from Howard Ham as to whether the amendment proposed in Change No 17 was contrary to Core Policy 62, that a written response would be given.

The meeting also received a statement from Ian Hames.

79 **Draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan**

 Cllr Toby Sturgis presented the report which: informed Cabinet of the outcome of the recent consultation on the 'Chippenham Site Allocations Plan - Pre-submission draft plan ('the Plan'); sought Cabinet's recommendation to Council that the Plan, together with proposed changes, should be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination; and sought Cabinet's recommendation to Council to delegate authority to make other minor changes before submission of the Plan to the Secretary of State in the interests of clarity and accuracy, to make appropriate arrangements for submission of documents to the Secretary of State, including the Equalities Impact Assessment, and respond to any consequential actions as directed by the Inspector relating to the Examination.

Issues raised in the course of the presentation and discussion included: that Cabinet had considered the draft Plan prior to the consultation process; that a large response had been received in the consultation period; that it was anticipated that the plan would be submitted to the Secretary of State at the end of July and that they would appoint an inspector to look at the plan; and the potential benefits there were from the plan.

Cllr Christine Crisp, ward member for Calne Rural, addressed the meeting and expressed her concern over the potential impacts on communities in her area and stated that she would not support the proposals when they were considered by Council.

Cllr Chris Caswill, ward member for Monkton Park, Chippenham, addressed the meeting and thanked the officers and members for working to accommodate a large number of questions. In his presentation he argued that Area D had been undervalued; that evidence regarding flooding and traffic should have been

more robustly challenged and that windfall and brownfield sites had not been adequately considered.

Councillor Sturgis stated that consideration of brownfield sites had to be based on clear evidence of delivery, rather than proposals subject to consultation, for example on a draft masterplan that may later be amended. A reasonable allowance had been made where possible.

Councillor Sturgis stated that the Inspector, if he or she had reason to, could ask the Council to conduct further consultation on proposed changes to the draft Plan during the examination.

Councillor Seed highlighted the positive results that could be gained from housing development citing Melksham as a good example.

Councillor Scott also asked that officers organise a meeting with some members of the public, to help explain how assessment had taken place with regard to traffic.

Resolved

That having considered the outcome of the consultation:

- (i) To endorse the Proposed Changes to the Plan, as set out in Appendix 4 subject to amendment in (iii).**
- (ii) To recommend that Council approves the Plan together with the Proposed Changes for the purpose of Submission to the Secretary of State subject to amendment in (iii).**
- (iii) To recommend that Council authorises the Associate Director for Economic Development and Planning in consultation with the Associate Director for Legal and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property and Waste to:
 - (a) Make any necessary minor changes to the Plan through the Schedule of Proposed Changes in the interests of clarity and accuracy before it is submitted to the Secretary of State;**
 - (b) Make appropriate arrangements for submission of all documents relating to the Plan, including supporting evidence such as the Equalities Impact Assessment, to the Secretary of State; and****

(c) Implement any consequential actions as directed by the Inspector relating to the Examination.

- iv) That a meeting is arranged with representatives from the Environment Agency, to be held in early September or before any hearing sessions, to provide further information on flood risk assessment and mitigation; and**
- v) That a meeting is arranged with officers from the Highways team, to be held in early September or before any hearing sessions, to provide further information on the transport and accessibility evidence.**

Reason for Proposals

To ensure that progress continues to be made on maintaining an up-to-date development plan for Wiltshire, in line with the timetable set out in the Council's Local Development Scheme and statutory requirements. In accordance with legislative requirements, the Council will need to approve the submission of the Plan to the Secretary of State for examination.

80 Statement of Community Involvement Update 2015

Cllr Toby Sturgis presented the report which asked cabinet to consider approving the Wiltshire Council Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Update as amended following consultation; to recommend that the Associate Director for Economic Development and Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property and Waste, is authorised to make any further necessary minor changes in the interest of clarity and accuracy; and to recommend that Full Council on 14 July 2015 formally adopt the SCI Update.

A representation was received from a Malcolm Toogood who expressed some frustration with regard to his dealings with the Council. The Leader asked that Dr Carlton Brand, Corporate Director discuss his concerns with him.

Issues raised in the course of the presentation and discussion included: the changes proposed to the previous version; the size of the response to the consultation; and the different methods used to publicise and consult on planning matters.

Resolved

- (i) To approve the content of the Wiltshire Council Statement of Community Involvement Update, as amended (Appendix 2);**

- (ii) To recommend that Council authorised the Associate Director for Economic Development and Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property and Waste, to make any further necessary minor changes in the interest of clarity and accuracy; and**
- (iii) To recommend to Full Council on 14 July 2015 that the SCI Update as amended by (ii) should be formally adopted by the Council.**

Reason for Proposals

In the light of recent legislative changes and in the interests of clarifying the SCI in certain sections where information has now become out-of-date the SCI should be updated.

Updating the SCI will ensure that the best use of resources is made during consultation, both in terms of financial and staffing resources in order to ensure efficient and effective plan making; and so that consultation can be meaningful and appropriate.

81 Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 9.00 - 11.47 am)

These decisions were published on the 17 August 2015 and will come into force on 25 August 2015

The Officer who has produced these minutes is William Oulton, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718024 or e-mail yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk
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