

PLANNING & ECONOMIC REGENERATION COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on
Monday 16 October 2006**

PRESENT: Councillor C J Viner – Town Mayor – Ex Officio
Councillor P R Atkinson – **Vice-Chair**
Councillor Mrs M J Baggs
Councillor T A Briggs
Councillor Ms H E Canfer
Councillor M J Harris
Councillor J Ireland
Councillor A J Trotman

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Ben Terry, NWDC
Mr Nick Fenwick, NWDC
Mr Chris Major, NWDC

OFFICERS: Mrs A Kingdon – Town Clerk
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

36/06 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Chair, Councillor R Golding, and the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor P Dolman.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, Councillor P R Atkinson assumed the Chair.

37/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

38/06 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Committee held on Monday 31 July 2006, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

39/06 HIGHWAY MATTERS

There was nothing to report from the Area Highway Engineer.

40/06 EARMARKED RESERVES

The Earmarked Reserves were noted together with the Capital Receipt allocations for this Committee.

41/06 DRAFT BUDGET 2007/2008

The following issues were raised by members:

- There was concern at the Town Council's financial contribution to Police Community Support Officers. Chippenham Town Council were not including any contribution in their budget for the next financial year, however, Corsham Town Council were going to continue with funding.
- The Town Council's funding of the PCSOs will continue until the end of the financial year. A letter had been received from Wiltshire Constabulary stating they will be contacting us soon to discuss the future arrangement with the PCSOs.
- It was felt that this subject should be fully debated at the next Full Council meeting in November as this meeting is concerned with the Budget.
- There was concern at the impact of PCSOs due to their restricted powers.
- It was felt that the PCSOs supported the Police Officers very well and did a very good job in the town.

It was proposed by Councillor J R Ireland, seconded by the Town Mayor, Councillor C J Viner and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the draft budget for 2007/2008, however, to discuss whether to not to include funding of PCSOs fully at the next Full Council meeting in November, when the Precept is due to be set.

The following additional points were raised by members:

- The Chair informed that the Capital Reserve from the Sale of Newcroft is now depleting and asked members to consider any ideas for future capital expenditure, within the next 12 months, for inclusion in the budget.
- It was confirmed that the £5,000 earmarked for the conservation area was specifically for street nameplates.
- A question concerning a Conservation Area for Quemerford was raised and the Town Clerk informed that due to workload this had not yet been followed up, however, there should be no cost implications as public consultation would be funded by North Wilts District Council.

42/06 GAMBLING ACT 2005 – CONSULTATION ON STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES TO BE APPLIED BY NWDC

The information was noted, and no comments were made.

43/06 PUFFIN CROSSING, CURZON STREET

The Chair, Councillor P R Atkinson, updated members and stated that work on the Puffin Crossing was due to commence on 23 October 2006 and would take 2-3 weeks to complete. 2 way temporary traffic signals will be in operation for the duration of the works hence delays should be expected.

44/06 ON STREET PARKING ENFORCEMENT IN NORTH WILTSHIRE

Nick Fenwick, Strategic Manager Customer Services and Chris Major were present at the meeting to answer any questions members may have about this issue.

The following points were raised by members:

- There was a problem with parking on the south side of the town as people prefer not to pay for parking. This was causing townspeople to shop in Devizes.
- Shopkeepers have noticed a decline in walk-in trade due to the lack of free parking, resulting in parking in Sainsbury's car park and on the local roads.
- An idea had been put to Wilts County Council concerning opening up the entrance past the library to give access through to Sainsbury's car park.
- There is also an issue with part-time workers in Calne who need more than 4 hours parking, most work for 5 hours per day.
- With the installation of a crossing at Curzon street, some on street parking will be lost and residents applying for permits should be supported by the Council.
- Certain areas of the town have disabled parking spaces which could be reduced in number, such as outside Barclays Bank, only one is needed the other two spaces could be for short stay, to pop into the bank for example. Also at The Pippin there are 6 disabled spaces, if only 2 are designated disabled spaces the other 4 could be for short-stay use.
- It was felt that the towns should have the same parking charges.
- Mr Fenwick informed that the initial intention was for a uniform approach, however, the towns each replied with their own variations and needs, all towns are different.
- It seemed that introducing these variants had made the problems worse and complicated the whole issue.
- The Town Clerk informed members that she had walked around with the District council officers and suggested dividing the Church Street Car park somehow into a 2/3 long stay 1/3 short stay car park. She had also suggested using the market place as a short term car park for shoppers for a maximum of 2 hours. Liaison with Sainsbury's and Somerfield would be needed to address the 'knock-on' effect on their car parks.
- Mr Fenwick informed that the current charges were due to remain until September 2007, however, these could be revised at any time.

It was proposed by Councillor P R Atkinson, seconded by Councillor Mrs M J Baggs and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that a letter should be sent suggesting the use of Church Street car park as a combined short stay and long stay car park with the following car parking charges:

1 hour – free
Up to 5 hours – 50p
5-8 hours - £1.50

It was proposed by Councillor J R Ireland, seconded by the Town Mayor, Councillor C J Viner and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to write a letter suggesting opening up the market place as a short stay car park.

45/06 CALNE TOWN CENTRE FORUM

The information was noted.

46/06 MOVIOLA – Mobile Cinema Scheme

The information was noted.

47/06 THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE (SPRINGFIELD DRIVE AREA, CALNE, 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ZONE) ORDER 2006

The letter and draft copy of the order were noted.

48/06 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT ZONE

The Chair, Councillor Atkinson, updated members on the current situation and proposals to open up the High Street to traffic, and stated that stone bollards would be placed at the end of the High Street to deter traffic from trying to turn right. The carriageway would be just wide enough for a large vehicle (e.g. refuse lorry) to go through. This road system should encourage people to use the bypass. A traffic survey and public consultation would be necessary before approval.

It was proposed by Councillor T A Briggs, seconded by Councillor J Ireland and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to request Wiltshire County Council to carry out the necessary investigations to open up the High Street.

49/06 LICKHILL ROAD/NORTH STREET PAVEMENTS

The Chair, Councillor P R Atkinson stated that it has been suggested by Wiltshire County Council officers that the best way forward is to widen the pathway on the left side as the right hand side has all the utilities and driveways. A plan has been drawn up and is currently being used for resident consultation. This item will need to be discussed further at the next meeting of this Committee.

50/06 ITEM FOR INFORMATION

50.1 Minutes of Hills Resource Centre Liaison Committee

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2006 were noted.

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm.