

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC REGENERATION COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on
Monday 31 July 2006**

PRESENT: Councillor C J Viner – Town Mayor – Ex Officio
Councillor R Golding – **Chair**
Councillor P R Atkinson – **Vice-Chair**
Councillor Mrs M J Baggs
Councillor T A Briggs
Councillor A J Trotman

OFFICERS: Mrs L Wakefield– Deputy Town Clerk
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

23/06 APOLOGIES

There were no Apologies received.

24/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A J Trotman declared an interest on any discussion concerning Phases III and IV. He would not take part in any discussion and would not vote.

25/06 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Committee held on Monday 5 June 2006, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

26/06 HIGHWAY MATTERS

The following points were raised by members:

- A new Parish Stewards Scheme was to be introduced very shortly. Councillor Trotman and the Town Clerk had attended a meeting at Stanley Park concerning this scheme.
- Ringway Highway Services have purchased multi purpose four wheel drive vehicles which will be operated by one man.
- This scheme is to be introduced in September and is due to a reorganisation of the Parish Lengthsmen Scheme.
- This scheme should give a better work rate and has Satellite Navigation on board so its location is known at all times.
- The Deputy Town Clerk had information about this scheme if members wish to find out more.

27/06 EARMARKED RESERVES

The Capital Receipt Allocations for this Committee were noted. The Earmarked Reserves are in the process of being updated and will be presented to the next meeting of this Committee.

28/06 WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

It was agreed that the existing members should remain on the **Phases III & IV Working Group** i.e.: Councillors Atkinson, Councillor Ireland and Councillor Harris.

It was agreed that the following members would sit on the **Market Working Group**: Councillor Golding, Councillor Briggs and Councillor Mrs Baggs.

It was agreed that the following members would sit on the **Traffic Calming Working Group**: Councillors Atkinson, Ireland, Trotman and Golding (as Chair of PERC).

It was agreed that the existing members should remain on the **Local Development Framework Working Group** i.e.: Councillor Atkinson, Councillor Ireland and Councillor Mrs Baggs.

It was agreed that the following members would sit on the **Conservation Area Working Group**: Councillor Atkinson, Councillor Ireland and Councillor Harris.

It was agreed that the following members would sit on the **Hills Liaison Group**: The Town Mayor - Councillor Viner, Councillor Golding and Councillor Mrs Baggs.

29/06 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT ZONE

Councillor Atkinson explained his proposal in more detail with the use of a sketched map. The suggestion raised at the Traffic Calming Working Group was to use the High Street as a single carriageway road for use by traffic travelling out to the south of the town. Traffic going into town would use the existing Curzon Street road, thereby enforcing a one-way traffic system around the town. This should alleviate traffic congestion and encourage drivers to use the bypass road to Chippenham. This idea was considered feasible at this stage, however, would have to be investigated further and could take up to 2 years to implement.

Members raised the following points:-

- 5 Years ago the idea of opening up the High Street was refused as the elderly would be unable to cross the road to the Post Office, as this problem no longer exists and several people in the town have also suggested this idea, it was fully supported.
- A suggestion had also been made to alter Lower Sainsbury's carpark to enable access through Harris Court to avoid having to drive through the 20 mph zone to get to the car park. The feasibility of this should be investigated.
- At the Traffic Calming Working Group meeting it was explained that a feasibility study would cost in the region of £20,000. Consideration will therefore have to be given to costs and to include this in the budget.

- Funding could be possible from Persimmon Homes if the Community Centre is not built, with negotiations with NWDC money could be transferred for use in the town. This possibility could be explored further.
- It was felt that the High Street was currently used for the Art and Crafts Market and the Farmers Market and should not be opened up as a one-way road. The narrowing of Curzon Street to encourage traffic to use the bypass has not worked and therefore the best solution would be to re-open Curzon Street as it was before.
- A new market place is proposed in the next phase of development for the town and this would replace what we have now.
- The High Street is a degenerated area which doesn't look particularly nice, always rubbish outside the Kebab Shop.
- At the Traffic Calming meeting WCC Officers explained, as a short term solution, an application had been submitted to Government requesting give-ways at both ends of Curzon Street. This is not normally permitted and therefore a special application has been made.
- The High Street's existing highway and infrastructure remains intact.
- This one-way road system would make the town look quite attractive.
- Councillor Atkinson had received an accurate diagram of the area from WCC and would re-draw the proposal to scale for discussion at the next meeting of this Committee. He would E-Mail copies to all members so that any comments/alterations can be addressed in time for the next meeting of this Committee.

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

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to write to Wiltshire County Council to:

- 1) Support Wiltshire County Council's application for give-ways at both ends of Curzon Street.
- 2) Support investigation into accessing Sainsbury's Carpark from the South side of town.
- 3) Inform them we wish to investigate the opening up of the High Street proposal, with drawings, and will report back to the next meeting of this Committee.

30/06 CAR PARKING CHARGES

The correspondence was noted by members.

31/06 LICKHILL ROAD/NORTH STREET - PAVEMENTS

After the Traffic Calming Working Group meeting, the two officers from Wiltshire County Council went up to this area with some Councillors to discuss the options available. The following points were raised:

- It would cost in the region of £15,000 to carry out investigations, however, it was possible to do a lot of work ourselves to cut down costs.

- The pavements on the right hand side of Lickhill Road were all degraded with widths varying from 12-18 inches wide, and all utilities were on this side of the road. It was therefore sensible to forget the pavement completely on this side and to make a pavement on the left side wide enough for disabled access.
- WCC Officers thought this was a good idea, if we would draw plans up they could see no reason why this could not go ahead. Councillor Atkinson has offered to draw up the plans in consultation with WCC.
- There would need to be a consultation process with residents and this work could be done as traffic calming.
- 70K was considered sufficient to complete the above works.
- The original idea of step outs in the road would prove very expensive.
- The Deputy Town Clerk stated that collapsible bollards had been suggested at Duncan Street and this would need to be taken into consideration and included.
- Councillor Trotman informed that this had been discussed at County previously and as Duncan Street was not a through road and consisted of dead end roads there could be no claim on S106 funds.

It was proposed by The Chair, Councillor R Golding, seconded by Councillor Mrs M J Baggs and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to investigate improvements to the paving in Lickhill Road and for Ward Councillors, in conjunction with Councillor Atkinson, to consult with the residents and report back to the next meeting of this Committee.

32/06 WILTSHIRE & SWINDON WASTE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

The Meeting 10 Outcomes Report was noted by members.

33/06 ITEM FOR INFORMATION

33.1 *Speed Limit Quemerford* – The response from Wiltshire County Council was noted.

34/06 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

It was

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

35/06 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

The **Confidential Minutes** of the Meeting of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Committee, held on Monday 5 June 2006, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

The meeting closed at 6.50 pm.