

## West Wiltshire District Council

### Minutes

Minutes of the: **Special meeting of West Wiltshire District Council**

Held on: **Wednesday 28 September 2005**

Held at: **Council Offices, Bradley Road, Trowbridge**

Present: Councillors Batchelor (Chairman), Brice, Brown, Bryant, Burnan OBE, Carbin, Clark, Conley, Content, Cunliffe-Jones, Davis, Farkas, Hawker, Knight, Lewis, Manasseh, March, Mounde, Osborn, Phillips OBE, Syme, While and Wiltshire.

Also present:

Officers: Chief Executive (AP), Acting Legal and Democratic Services Manager (GC), Planning Policy & Conservation Manager (MR) and Member Support Team Leader (YR)

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#### **352. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors, Barker, Blakemore, Bower, Chivers, John Clegg, Marion Clegg, Cox, Fortescue, James, Newbury, Oakman, Payne, Rosier, Viles and Whatley-Gibbs

#### **353. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Clark expressed a personal interest, as he had chaired the meeting of Hilperton Parish Council when they had discussed the item, he said he would remain in the Council Chamber and would consider the item with an open mind

#### **354. Questions**

No questions were asked

#### **355. Open Forum**

There were no Open Forum speakers

#### **356. Statement of Community Involvement**

The Wiltshire Statement of Community Involvement sets out, in a clear and readable format, how the District Council will involve the community in the preparation of local development documents, which will form the West Wiltshire LDF, and in the determination of development control applications. The West Wilts SCI also sets out the basic mechanisms that the District Council will use to involve the community as a corporate body.

An internal Officer group and a PPG prepared SCI the draft. The PPG met three times. The SCI has been the subject of two consultation exercises. An initial informal exercise, which lasted 8 – 12 weeks, and during June, July and August a statutory consultation exercise that lasted 6 weeks. The latest consultation exercise resulted in approximately 80 representations made by 17 different respondents. These included the LSP, local parish councils, government bodies and agencies and prominent developers. The current version of the SCI has been amended to reflect representations made during the statutory period of consultation.

The final PPG meeting suggested some additional amendments. Notably, some additional text to provide an explicit explanation of how the community will become involved. Also, the production of a summary leaflet, which explains in basic language how the community can become involved. Officers envisage that a draft version of the leaflet will be ready in time for Council on 14 September 2005.

The views of the Council are welcomed and there is an opportunity to introduce minor text amendments at this late stage. Amendments to the fundamental concept of the document are not welcomed. This is because of the tight time-scale. Following on from Council, the SCI will be submitted to the GOSW/ SoS for independent examination. The West Wilts LDS identifies the SCI as being submitted in September 2005.

**Resolved:**  
**That the Council agrees the Statement of Community Involvement before submission to the Secretary of State.**

Chairman: .....

Date: .....