

Clerks Report – July 2008

**Agenda Items**

**8 b) Castle Street – pedestrian improvements. Project Initiation Document.** Michael Crook, Senior Transport Planner at WCC writes: ‘At WCC we have a prioritised list of pedestrian schemes that have been requested by the public. Each year the highest priority schemes are looked at in detail to see what, if anything, can be done to improve the issues that have been raised. Castle Street in Mere came out as a priority scheme for this year and I attach a document which outlines the scheme and a diagram showing the study area. At the outset of these schemes we inform the local County Councillor and the Parish Council and ask them to confirm that they support the schemes in principle. We will also come back to you later in the process when we have some outline proposals. One other thing I would like to raise, as you are aware we have already received a small contribution from the garage site towards pedestrian improvements in this area but our engineers may be able to use this potential additional funding to undertake a more extensive scheme.’

**PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT (PID)**

<b>The Project Title</b>	<b>Castle Street, Mere – Pedestrian Improvements</b>
<b>Project Code</b>	TF9118
<b>Project File Reference</b>	LTP/0809/TF9118
<b>Location</b>	Castle Street, Mere.
<b>The Community Area</b>	Mere
<b>Local Member</b>	Mrs Bridget Wayman
<b>The Council Divisions</b>	Mere and Tisbury
<b>Strategic Purpose</b>	To improve pedestrian safety and accessibility and to promote the safe use of non-car modes of travel
<b>Project Purpose</b>	To identify possible new facilities to improve the pedestrian environment on the south side of Castle Street
<b>Strategic Owner</b>	Allan Creedy Tel: 01225 713444 e-mail: allancreedy@wiltshire.gov.uk
<b>Project Owner</b>	Dave Thomas Tel: 01225 713312 Email: davethomas@wiltshire.gov.uk
<b>Project Team</b>	Michael Crook Tel: 01225 756558 Email: michaelcrook@wiltshire.gov.uk

Paul Brown  
Mouchel

Tel: 01225 756600  
Email: paul.brown@mouchel.com

**Desired Outputs and Outcomes**

*Outputs:*

- An investigation into feasible options for pedestrian improvements in this location
- An informed decision as to whether or not a scheme should be pursued to the consultation stage at this location
- A report outlining the recommended options
- Preparation of consultation documents to enable the client to undertake consultation, if it is felt appropriate
- A completed consultation protocol

- An outline design which can be taken forward to detailed design and construction

#### *Outcomes:*

- If a feasible scheme can be produced and it is sufficiently supported, improvements to pedestrian facilities would be undertaken. This would help to make it easier for pedestrians to walk along this stretch of Castle Street

#### **Project Milestones**

- Data acquisition and initial analysis
- Recommendation of a preferred option
- Decision as to whether or not a scheme should be taken forwards to consultation
- Preliminary design of the preferred option
- Consultation on the preferred option

#### **Stages**

- Initial assessment of site
- Consider options for improving facilities and recommend the most appropriate option(s)
- Undertake consultation if deemed appropriate by the client

If there is sufficient support for the proposed scheme, it will be put forward for detailed design and construction during a later financial year

**Budget:** £10,000  
**Brief No:** 06/09/41  
**Order No:** To be allocated  
 20 May 2008

#### ***Information Items***

##### **Banking charges**

George Jeans has been successful in his negotiations with Lloyds TSB in getting them to stop our business banking charges. A letter has been sent to Mr. Hutchins of Lloyds TSB stating: 'We greatly appreciate the effort that you and Councillor George Jeans have made and it is extremely important to us that we continue supporting our local branch of Lloyds TSB in order to help sustain its existence, not only for the Parish Council, but also for the community of Mere'.

##### **Code of Conduct for Councillors – Local Determination of Complaints**

SDC has written to advise us about the new arrangements which have been introduced with effect from 8.5.08 for dealing with complaints about the conduct of members of SDC and Parish & Town Councils within the district.

Previously, anyone wishing to complain about the conduct of elected members of district, parish & town councils had to report their allegations to the Standards Board for England, who would decide whether or not to investigate. This responsibility has now been taken over by local authorities, with the Standards Board's role moving towards one of advice and support. All district, parish & town councillors within the district have to keep to SDC's Code of Conduct to ensure that they maintain the high ethical standards the public expect from them. If a complaint reveals that a potential breach of this Code has taken place, SDC's Standards Committee may refer the allegations for investigation or decide to take other action. Investigations themselves will also be managed by the Standards Committee, except in cases where a conflict of interest or other unusual circumstances mean that it would be more appropriate for the Standards Board for England to handle. Once cases have been investigated, the authority's independently chaired standards committee will

decide what action, if any, should be taken against the member. On rare occasions this responsibility will be given to the Adjudication Panel for England, an independent judicial tribunal. The Standards Board will continue to provide guidance to local authority standards committees and will monitor their effectiveness to ensure that results are consistent. Anyone wishing to complain that a district, parish or town councillor has breached the Code of Conduct should contact Salisbury District Council's Monitoring Officer, John Crawford at Salisbury District Council, PO Box 2117, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 2DF. SDC agreed at its annual meeting on 19th May that one additional parish representative should be recruited to the Standards Committee through Wiltshire Association of Local Councils.

**Newsletters, Periodicals, Magazines**

Fieldwork – Campaign to Protect Rural England – June 2008

Countryside Voice - Campaign to Protect Rural England – Summer 2008

Mrs. Lindsey Wood, Parish Clerk