

# **Mere Parish Council**

---

## **Clerks Report – April 2010**

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

**6e) Park Plan Review** – Cllr. R. Tonge (Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport) writes: ‘Thank you for your letter dated 18 February 2010. The Council has recently commissioned its consultants Mouchel to undertake a review of the current ‘Wiltshire Local Transport Plan – Parking Plan’ which dates from 2000. As part of the commission, Mouchel will review and provide advice on parking charges in different spatial areas taking account:

- The strength of the local economy
- The utilisation and occupancy of existing parking spaces
- Traffic conditions on the local highways network
- The availability of public transport
- Parking charges in neighbouring areas; and
- Local environment conditions

I hope this demonstrates that the review will take account of the local circumstances found in Wiltshire’s small towns such as here. Furthermore, it is envisaged that the parking charges in each area will be set by the Council after consultation with the respective Area Board. Mouchel are scheduled to produce their final report in mid-April. I have ensured that a copy of your letter is forwarded to them. I hope the above is helpful.’

### **Information Items**

#### **Delegation of Street Naming & Numbering**

We have received the following letter from Wiltshire Council: ‘On the questionnaire you recently returned to us regarding the delegation of services, you expressed an interest in having street naming delegated to you. We have assessed this and found that the current legislation and protocols are complex and would prove an extremely onerous burden on towns and parishes for very little gain. Town and parish councils are “Principal Consultees” in the Street Naming process and the protocol is that:

“A developer or landowner proposing to name or number a street or property is legally required to give prior notification to Wiltshire Council. Wiltshire Council has the power to object within one month (in writing) giving the reasons for objections. (E.g. the proposal does not meet the national protocol and/or does not comply with the Council’s current guidelines). If there are no reasons for objection, the relevant town or parish council as Principal Consultee will, on all occasions, be asked for their views, but their response must be received within the one month objection period. If the developer has no preference they may pass the suggestion of names to the town or parish council for their choices. Providing there are no reasons for objection to the name proposed by the town or parish council, Wiltshire Council will accept that proposal subject to compliance with British Standard BS7666 and approval from Royal Mail”.

Wiltshire Council has only one officer dealing with Street Naming and Numbering, who ensures compliance with current legislation and functional protocols. In consequence, there would be an increase in overall costs to the taxpayers should some town and parishes take on this task who would also need to provide adequately trained staff, run a BS7666 approved software system and deal with any potential legal appeal from developers. We will therefore not be delegating this function but will continue with the current arrangements.’

#### **Magazines, Journals, Periodicals, Newsletters**

The Clerk – The Journal of the Society of Local Council Clerks – March 2010

Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2010 – Issue 68

Local Council Review – Spring 2010, Volume 62

CPRE South Wiltshire Group Newsletter – Spring 2010