

CLERKS REPORT – March 2015

Agenda Items

7b) Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Documents – Informal Consultation on initial site options – further information on this is available on Wiltshire Council’s website – see link:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/wiltshsgsiteallocationsplansites.htm>

c) Proposed bungalow development in Bramley Hill – update on situation and communication from Wiltshire Council’s New Housing Team - Helen Taylor, from Wiltshire Council’s New Housing Team writes: ‘Since I was last in touch we have received some site survey results for the site at Bramley Hill, Mere. The topographic survey has highlighted a number of issues which have led us to the conclusion that it is not feasible to develop that site for housing. This is mainly due to the fact that there are a number of services running beneath the site, including a soakaway ring which requires a clear 5m space all around it without any development. There are also trees on the adjoining land which will require a significant root protection area, and an area of our site which is highways land and would therefore require a stopping up order, or not be included in the development. These issues all mean that the developable area of the site is too small. I have been in contact with George Jeans in this respect, and have suggested to him that we consider redevelopment of the garage site which lies behind nos. 5-10 Bramley Hill. Only 6 out of the 17 garages in that particular block are currently tenanted. The rest are unused. Housing Management have already identified this block as being in a poor state of repair, and have recommended that they should be demolished with a view to using the area for off road parking or future development. We would therefore like to consider building the bungalows on that site and working with Housing Management to upgrade the remaining garages across the Bramley Hill development, many of which are currently empty. George is happy that we proceed with further enquiries on the garage site with a view to considering the development of two bungalows there. Obviously I wanted to let you know of this proposal and to check that you would be supportive of that approach? I would be grateful to receive your comments on that as soon as possible before we commit to any further survey work. I also wondered if the Parish Council had reached any decisions around having a housing needs survey carried out?’

e) Traffic Scheme for Mere Town Centre - Julie Wharton, Senior Traffic Engineer for Wiltshire Council writes: ‘Please find attached a drawing (map attached as separate document) that shows the changes to the parking restrictions as I remember them. If there are any amendments needed to the plan, please do let me know and I will adjust it as necessary. Whilst checking the current orders it became apparent that there already should be a double yellow line in the vicinity of the hall (I have marked this on the plan). This was implemented in 2011 and therefore does not need to be advertised unless the PC wish to make changes to its position. (I have shown where it should be on the attached plan). I have also shown that the single yellow line to the west of the Co-op store as being amended to ‘No Waiting, Mon-Sat 9am to 6pm’ to coincide with the changes that the PC has requested to the parking bays. I suggest that the next step forward is for the Parish Council to carry out some informal consultation with the community to ensure that there is general support for the proposals. Then they will need to be presented to the next South West CATG meeting to request for funding and resourcing in January. The cost will be approximately £1000 for the legal work for both the amendments to the waiting restrictions and the removal of the No vehicles except for loading restriction in the road directly outside of the Co-op store. The physical work will be in the region of £1000 for both.’

f) Notice of withdrawal of current Speed Indicator Device Scheme – Cllr. John Thomson, Deputy Leader of Wiltshire Council writes: ‘I wrote to all Area Board chairs last month, asking whether your towns and parishes would be prepared to contribute towards the retention of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS). The deadline for responses was 30 November, but I have considered some which were received after this date. Although I

received some indications of support, they comprised a relatively small percentage of a partial response. I will therefore be instructing the withdrawal of SIDs as currently funded. During this exercise, my attention has been drawn to other authorities who operate 'subsidised' schemes ie those which rely on contribution from the local community. For those towns and parishes who have expressed a willingness to provide a degree of local funding support, I am happy to investigate their operation and consider the possibility of an arrangement that has only partial take-up. I will inform you of the outcome in due course. For the avoidance of doubt however, the current scheme will not continue in its present form.'