

# Whiteley Parish Council

## Strategic Development and Policy Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held at Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm.

**Parish Council Committee members present:** Mike Evans (Chairman), Colin Bielckus, Brenda Hatch, David Jenkins, Al Menzies, Pat Thew

Three members of the public, Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver

- 1. To receive apologies for absence** Kairen Goves.
- 2. To receive declarations of interest regarding agenda items** None.
- 3. To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public**

Resident Geoff Rodgers asked for a definition of affordable housing. **Affordable housing includes social rented and intermediate housing, provided to specified eligible households whose needs are not met by the market .**

Resident Pat Wright asked for confirmation regarding agenda item 4.3 that if the Parish Council takes over land it can create by-laws. **The Chairman confirmed this will be the case.**

Mr Wright also said he understood that if the Parish Council doesn't take on the open spaces currently managed by WCC, WCC would charge residents through a special expense when the Whiteley Fund runs out. **The Chairman confirmed this will be the case.**

Mr Wright suggested with reference to item 4.2 that the provision of a library without funding from HCC would not be sustainable. **The Chairman advised that a meeting has been arranged with HCC to clarify the situation, a decision on whether to pursue a library can then be made.**

Resident Vic Hatch asked whether there would be a public consultation on the devolution of open spaces. **Mr Hatch asked this question at Full Council on 12<sup>th</sup> April and a detailed response has already been given. The Chairman confirmed that no decision would be taken by the Parish Council until all the details including costs were known, see Item 4.3 below.**

#### **4. Meeting resumed to consider the following agenda items:**

4.1 To review issues concerning proposals for North Whiteley and reports to be made to the North Whiteley Development Forum. **The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March have been published**

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/CommitteeMeeting.asp?id= SX9452-A7852386>

**The Consortium wishes to set up workshops to begin the consultation process for the development of North Whiteley and will be contacting the Parish Council to agree a way forward.**

4.2 To review issues concerning Whiteley Village redevelopment and proposal for hub/library/facility for young people. **Correspondence from WCC which includes some anticipated costs for the hub suggests that funding will not be made available by HCC towards a library facility. A meeting with HCC to discuss further has been arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> May.**

4.3 To discuss opportunity offered by Winchester City Council to take responsibility for Meadowside recreation ground, skatepark and play areas at the end of the current maintenance contract in 2011 following a full consideration of financial and operational issues. **WCC is researching information requested by the Parish Council to allow the options to be considered, some has been provided. A further meeting with WCC officers and Clerk has been arranged for 6<sup>th</sup> May.**

4.4 To receive update on planning for improved access to Whiteley from the Highways Working Party. **Nothing further to report.**

4.5 To receive feedback from meeting with WCC and DC Leisure 14<sup>th</sup> April to discuss management of Meadowside Leisure Centre and impact on facilities WPC is likely to adopt in 2011. **DC Leisure has taken over the management of the Centre, there are a few teething problems with the internet connection but the new team is very enthusiastic and keen to work with the Parish Council to improve facilities and services for the community.**

4.6 To review the Parish Council's 2009/10 strategy and key objectives and consider draft for 2010/11. **Draft key objectives circulated for full consideration at the next meeting.**

5. **To identify any unmanaged risks within this committee's remit.** Continue to monitor.
6. **Review effectiveness of communication, development of links with other community organisations and support for local democracy through making information more widely available.** Continue to monitor.
7. **Recent correspondence / reports from meetings of relevance to this committee.** Included above as appropriate.

Meeting closed 8.45pm