

**MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 30th NOVEMBER 2017 IN THE TOWN HALL, MALMESBURY**

Present: Councillors: RE Budgen, JM Exton, PJ Exton, AJ Gundry, PJ Newman, K Power and W Jones
Other Councillors Present: G Grant, C Ritchie and P Smith
Members of the Public: 1

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor MJ Asciak.

4. PLANNING APPLICATION 17/07126/VAR – CHARLTON PARK FARM

Consideration was given to an application seeking to vary conditions on approved plans for an Anaerobic Digester plant at Charlton Park Farm.

Issues discussed included:

- The proposed traffic management plan and traffic routing plan;
- The need for bi-annual meetings between the plant operators, Wiltshire Council planning/enforcement officers and Town/Parish representatives to monitor vehicle movements;
- The impact on roads in the Town;
- The target to take 33% of deliveries through the Charlton Park estate;
- The status of agricultural vehicles (will they be included in the numbers of lorries/trucks/tankers delivering);
- The length of the harvest period;
- Whether plans for internal transportation through Charlton Park could be requested; and
- That the Parish has decided not to ask their Wiltshire Councillor to call the application in.

Resolved:

- 1) To welcome the commitment from the applicant to adhere to the Traffic Routing Plan shown in Appendix G of the November 2017 Transport Statement, which prohibits traffic using roads through Brokenborough and Malmesbury Town.
- 2) To welcome the Transport Management Plan but to ask that it be modified so that (a) the bi-annual meetings (that is, twice a year) are held with St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council and Malmesbury Town Council and Wiltshire Council, (b) vehicle movements records are visible to those bodies, (c) the first meeting occurs within three months of the first operation of the digester.

- 3) To welcome the improvements to the site access making it less likely for there to be a queue of HGVs on the B4014.
- 4) Notwithstanding the above developments, to continue to oppose the application because nothing in the revised plan does anything to reduce the number of vehicle movements especially during harvest days. These will occur on stretches of the A429 and B4014 portions of which lie within or border the Malmesbury Town parish. Malmesbury Town Council believes, as expressed in its comment of 3rd October, that these movements (see below) will have a severe impact on the A429 and B4014 on harvest days and those movements should be reduced. In partial mitigation, the Town Council believes a new road should be built to the site from the A429 through Griffiths Barn Farm.
- 5) To support the Highway's Officer's view in paragraph 6 of his 28th September email that any approval should be conditioned that 33% of the incoming feedstock and outgoing digestate is transported on Charlton Park internal roads and piping and is not transported on the highways. This would reduce highways movements to the lower of the figures shown in our table of calculations below. It believes that this condition should be incorporated into the Transport Management Plan as a limit on permissible highways movements, although ways to reduce the number of movements should still be sought.

	On harvest days	Throughout the year
Existing / Pre-application	75	9
Approved Sept 16 Application	160 - 238	12 - 14
Proposed July 17 Application	165 - 243	18 - 19

Calculated number of daily one-way vehicle movements to and from the Digester site

- 6) To request that Tetbury Town Council should be consulted on this application.

5. PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVISION IN MALMESBURY

Consideration was given to a draft response from the Governing Body of Malmesbury CE Primary School to Wiltshire Council's consultation on the proposal to expand Lea and Garsdon Primary School.

The Committee had been asked to address the issue by Full Council on 21st November and to consider formulating a plan of action for responding to the Statutory Notice by 7th December, making representations to Cabinet on 12th December and deciding if a press release is necessary.

The Committee also had regard to observations delivered by Councillors Budgen and Gundry following a meeting with the School.

Issues discussed included:

- The education contribution from Backbridge Farm;
- The possibility of increasing Section 106 funds by adjusting the affordable housing mix;
- That the cost of a scheme drawn up by an architect for the School was well in excess of the available funds;
- That Wiltshire Council's impact assessment has not been shared with the public;

- That a basic 'kit-box' extension is probably affordable, if the School were willing to compromise;
- The possibility that a generation of Malmesbury's young people might have to be bused or privately driven to a school away from the Town;
- The environmental, health & safety, educational and community costs of busing children to school away from the Town;
- That residents in the Town are generally unaware of this issue; and
- The need to get both parties to re-engage.

Resolved:

- 1) To respond to the Statutory Notice by stating that Wiltshire Council's proposal is not in the interests of the children of Malmesbury and that of future generations of Malmesbury children. The Town Council objects to a scheme which would see a large number of children bused or privately driven outside the Town each day. The Town Council urges a delay in making a decision, in order that all relevant information can be placed in the public domain. The Town Council also calls for the Local Education Authority and the School to meet again and discuss the mutually desired outcome of an extension at Malmesbury CE Primary School. The Town Council would like to express its willingness to facilitate any meeting.
- 2) To write formally to the Leader of Wiltshire Council requesting the opportunity to make representations at the meeting of Cabinet on 12th December.
- 3) To publish the Town Council's objection to the Statutory Notice on the website, so as to introduce the issue into the public domain.

The Meeting closed at 8.44pm.