



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILTERNES CONSERVATION BOARD PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2012 AT THE CHILTERNES CONSERVATION BOARD OFFICE, STATION ROAD, CHINNOR, COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM AND CONCLUDING AT 12.40 PM**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Member**

**Appointing Body**

**Appointed by Local Authorities**

Cllr Roger Emmett

Wycombe District Council

Cllr Brian Norman

Three Rivers District Council

Cllr Chris Richards

Aylesbury Vale District Council

**Appointed by the Secretary of State**

Mike Fox

(Chairman of the Board, observing)

Bettina Kirkham (Chairman)

John Willson

**Elected by Parish Councils**

Cllr Margaret Jarrett

Hertfordshire Parish Councils

Cllr Barbara Wallis

Buckinghamshire Parish Councils

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**Co-opted Members**

Gill Gowing

Strategic Planning Adviser to The Chiltern Society

Mike Stubbs

The National Trust

**Officers**

Colin White

Chilterns Conservation Board

**Others**

Deirdre Hansen

Minute taker

**31. Apologies**

**32. Public Question Time**

No members of the public were present.

**33. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest in items on the agenda were made.

**34. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**35. Matters Arising from the minutes**

1. Item 21: a new contract for the minute taker has been arranged.
2. Item 27: a sub-group had been set up to look at the Luton Northern Bypass (M1 to A6). A site meeting had been postponed due to thick fog. The sub-group will meet soon and the Planning Officer will circulate some suggested dates.
3. Item 20: the representation by the members appointed by the Secretary of State is due to be sent out in the next week.
4. Item 24: the Grand Union Canal is being kept open by closing all its arms.

**36. High Speed 2 – update**

The Planning Officer reported details as far as possible on the five judicial reviews that have been submitted, a complaint by the Wildlife Trusts submitted to the EC, the first Community Forums held, the summit called by BCC, the EIA Scope and Methodology report published for comment and the wider HS2 group meetings.

The Board is an interested party in connection with the judicial reviews and the complaint to the EC.

HS2 is also organising Planning and Environment Forums. The Board has asked to be present at both, though has heard nothing in reply.

The BCC summit on 19<sup>th</sup> April discussed both mitigation and compensation, although the emphasis was on mitigation. The Committee briefly discussed the possible changes to the format and constituent members of the Community Forums in the AONB. Mitigation measures were also mentioned with some discussion taking place about tunnel issues. These are likely to be resolved shortly.

The summit coincided with the publication by HS2 of the EIA Scope and Methodology report. The consultation finishes on 30<sup>th</sup> May. The officers of the

Board have subdivided the report and a draft response will be circulated shortly in order to help local groups and others input into the process.

**1. The Committee NOTED the report.**

**37. AONB Planning Forum**

The Planning Officer updated the Committee on the visits made with the Chairman to the Chilterns local authorities in connection with the AONB Planning Forum. 10 local authorities had been visited, two more will be visited before the end of June, with one date remaining to be organised.

The visits have provided an excellent opportunity for exchange of views and examining ways forward.

Topics for the Forum were discussed and explored. It is clear that future agendas for the Forum need to be focussed and not too many topics should be covered. It is accepted that the forum meetings are important and the authorities all agreed to send officers and members when available to do so.

One issue that was the subject of some discussion was in connection with the types of planning application that the Board wished to be consulted on. The Committee felt that this should be dealt with as part of a report to its next meeting.

The next Planning Forum will be held Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Watling House (Central Beds Council Offices) Dunstable, commencing at 10.00 and finishing at 13.00.

**1. The Committee NOTED the report.**

**2. The Committee AGREED, on completion of the visits being made by the Chairman and Planning Officer, that the notes should be circulated.**

**3. The Committee NOTED the arrangements for the next Planning Forum.**

**4. The Committee AGREED that it should receive a report at its next meeting specifying the types of planning applications that the Board would and would not wish to comment on.**

**38. Planning Training for Parish and Town Councils**

The Planning Officer reported that three planning training sessions for parish and town councils had been organised, promoted and bookings are being taken. Members were asked to continue promotion where possible to ensure good uptake.

A £15 charge is being made to cover costs. Those town and parish councils that have made a financial contribution to the Board's work are being offered a second place free of charge.

The training will be led by the Planning Officer and Mike Stubbs. Local authority Planning Officers and representatives of communities involved in Neighbourhood Planning will also be involved. The events will include

information about recent planning reforms.

Board members have agreed to welcome people to the events and to give an introduction to each of the events.

1. **The Committee NOTED the updated details for the parish and town council training events.**
2. **The Committee AGREED to promote the events as widely as possible.**

### **39. Chilterns Buildings Design Awards**

The Planning Officer highlighted the changes that had recently been made to the Design Awards scheme in order to refresh it.

The Judges had recently made their visits to a short list of entries and agreed on a number of winners which will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on 14<sup>th</sup> June at Restore Hope Latimer, Latimer Park. The arrangements for the ceremony were noted and various Members asked to be added to the list of attendees.

1. **The Committee NOTED the arrangements for the Design Awards ceremony.**
2. **The Committee AGREED to inform the Planning Officer if they wished to attend.**

### **40. Proposed student research project – implications of internet land sales**

The Planning Officer gave a verbal update and informed the Committee that the student research project to investigate the implications of internet land sales had been undertaken and is in the process of being written up. Once the written version has been received it will be available for the Committee to view. The key conclusions will be reported at a later meeting. The Committee discussed suggesting future research topics.

1. **The Committee NOTED the current position in connection with the proposed student research project.**
2. **The Committee AGREED to put forward ideas for future research projects.**

### **41. Development Plans Responses**

The Planning Officer informed the Committee that responses had been sent in connection with the following development plan documents: **Bucks Rural Affairs Group** Rural Strategy Issues Paper; **DCMS** relaxing the restrictions on the deployment of overhead telecommunications lines; **Three Rivers DC** Development Management Policies Pre-Submission Consultation; **South Oxfordshire DC** Core Strategy Main Modifications; **Central Beds Council** Development Strategy Issues and Options; **North Herts DC** Core Strategy New Housing Growth Targets; **London Luton Airport Limited** (owner) Luton Airport expansion proposals; **Great Missenden Parish Council** Village

Design Statement; **London Luton Airport Operations Limited** (operator) Luton Airport expansion proposals; **South Oxfordshire DC** Core Strategy comments following publication of NPPF.

All responses were made under delegated powers.

The Planning Officer had circulated the reports on the above Development Plans. He was thanked by the Chairman for all his hard work on the above Development Plans.

- 1. The Committee NOTED and APPROVED the responses already made on behalf of the Board in connection with the consultation exercise on the development plan documents as detailed above.**

#### **42. Planning Applications Update**

The Planning Officer informed the Committee about the various representations that had been made in connection with planning applications, and updated the Committee on any outcomes.

Last year the Board was consulted on 171 planning applications and had made 36 formal representations (33 objections and 3 supports).

This year the Board has been consulted on 16 applications and has made 3 formal representations (all objections).

The details of the formal representations were presented to the Committee and updates were provided where known.

- 1. The Committee NOTED and APPROVED the responses made in connection with the applications listed.**

#### **43. Any Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

#### **44. Date of the next meeting**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012** at the office of the Chilterns Conservation Board, 90 Station Rd, Chinnor commencing at 10.00 am.

**Future meetings: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012, 6<sup>th</sup> March and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013.**

The meeting closed 12.40

**The Chairman .....**

**Date .....**