



# CHIPPENHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Improving the quality of town life

26 February 2021

To Councillors:

James Adman	Desna Allen
Richard Bambury	Pete Bishop
Holly Bradfield	Jenny Budgetell
Clare Cape	Bill Douglas
Rajvir Gill	Peter Hutton
Teresa Hutton (Chairman)	Ruth Lloyd
Michael Merry	Nick Murry
Mary Norton	Ashley O'Neill
Andy Phillips	Nina Phillips
David Powell	Chris Ruck (Vice)
John Scragg	Melody Thompson
Sandie Webb	

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council - Thursday 04 March 2021

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend an extraordinary meeting of Full Council to be held virtually using the Zoom platform on Thursday 04 March 2021 commencing at 7pm for transaction of the business given in the Agenda attached.

For Councillors and public who wish to ask a public question, join the meeting via this link or ID and password:

<https://zoom.us/j/99701741431?pwd=SjAwYy85Qk5QOXNIL0JJalRUVzMyZz09>

Meeting ID: 997 0174 1431

Passcode: CTC21

Alternatively, anyone who wishes to **watch the meeting only** can do so via this link:

<http://youtube.com/channel/UCLhKQ0VMR7-mu7GvGYO3uGg/live>

Please note members of the public are invited observe the meeting virtually and have the opportunity to address the council at this meeting at 7pm. A guide is available for members of the public, for any support in accessing the meeting virtually please contact the Town Council at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Yours faithfully,

**Councillor Teresa Hutton**  
Mayor of Chippenham

All council meetings are open to the public and press

## RECORDING OF PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETINGS

Recording and using social media is permitted at Council meetings which are open to the public. Please note that Chippenham Town Council will be recording this meeting for training and monitoring purposes only.

### 7pm - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (not to exceed 30 minutes)

The public are welcome to make representations, ask questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda.

To aid the virtual meeting process, Chippenham Town Council ask members of the public to email their questions to [enquiries@chippenham.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@chippenham.gov.uk) no later than 12pm on the day before the meeting.

Any individual representation is limited to no more than 3 minutes. The Chairman will call the representation from those who are indicating that they wish to speak; written representations can also be received in advance of the meeting. A record of any public participation session shall not be included in the Minutes, but included as an appendix note to the Minutes of the meeting.

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## Agenda

Extraordinary Full Council meeting - Thursday 04 March 2021

	Wards affected	Page no.
1. <b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b>		
To receive any apologies for absence.		
2. <b><u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u></b>		
All Members of the Town Council are reminded to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests they may have in any business of the Council, its Committees or Sub-Committees, in accordance with the latest approved Code of Conduct.		
Councillors are reminded to declare any dispensation granted in relation to any relevant matter.		
3. <b><u>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></b>		
i. To receive any announcements from the Mayor.		

**Item 4 to consider**

- |    |  |     |   |
|----|--|-----|---|
| 4. | <b><u>WILTSHIRE COUNCIL - FUTURE CHIPPENHAM CONSULTATION</u></b> | All | 4 |
|----|--|-----|---|

To receive and consider a report from the Democratic Services Manager presenting a draft response to the Future Chippenham Consultation, based on Councillors comments that were submitted to officers in advance, to aid the process of determining a formal Town Council response to the consultation (copy attached).

**The Future Chippenham Programme Consultation runs from 9am on Friday 15 January until 5pm on Friday 12 March 2021.**

5. **ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION**

To consider any items for communication and any items to be consulted with the Youth Council.

6. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting of Full Council will take place on Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 7pm.



## Agenda Item 4

Meeting	Extraordinary Full Council
Date	04 March 2021
Report Title	Wiltshire Council Future Chippenham Consultation
Author	Heather Rae, Democratic Services Manager

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 Councillors to consider the draft response to Wiltshire Council's Future Chippenham Consultation at **APPENDIX A**. This response has been drafted from Councillor comments and responses submitted to officers to aid the process of determining a formal Town Council response to the consultation.

### 2.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Councillors will recall a presentation from Wiltshire Council's Future Chippenham Team at an Extraordinary Full Council meeting on 21 January 2021.

2.2 To collate Councillor views on this consultation and to aid the determination of a formal Town Council response, Councillors were requested to submit their comments to officers in advance by Monday 08 February.

### 3.0 DETERMINING A TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSE

3.1 Councillor responses and comments received in advance have been included in the draft consultation response letter at **APPENDIX A**. For transparency, all comments have been included with the relevant Councillor's initials.

3.2 The collated Councillor responses demonstrate that many Councillors share the view that the three options for a road presented in the consultation were not suitable and there was no clear option for disagreeing with the proposals.

3.3 15 out of 23 Councillors provided responses, of which 3 completed the consultation questionnaire and 12 who were against the proposal for a new road did not therefore complete the questionnaire.

3.4 Whilst 3 Councillors submitted comments on the 3 options for the route of the road (see **APPENDIX B**, questions 1-4 and 14-19 have been excluded as they related to personal circumstances or were not answered). These comments are not included in the Council's official response to Wiltshire Council on the consultation as the overriding view of Councillors is that there should not be a road as currently proposed.

#### **4.0 CONTRIBUTION TO CORPORATE PLAN PRIORITIES**

4.1 Providing a response to the Future Chippenham Consultation will contribute to the following corporate priorities;

- i. Corporate Priority 1 - Provide facilities and services which support and develop a well connected town, which promotes health and wellbeing.
- ii. Corporate Priority 2 - An active role in the future development of Chippenham through collaboration with partners and stakeholders.
- iii. Corporate Priority 3 - Maintain and enhance opportunities to create a green, clean and safe environment.
- iv. Corporate Priority 5 - Effective and efficient use of resources.

#### **5.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no staffing implications.

#### **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no financial implications associated with providing a response to the Future Chippenham Consultation.

#### **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 That Councillors consider the draft letter at **APPENDIX A** as the formal Town Council response to the Future Chippenham Consultation.

7.2 That Councillors delegate to the Chief Executive to submit this letter to the Future Chippenham Team at Wiltshire Council before the deadline on Friday 12 March at 5pm.



Future Chippenham Team  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

Date

### **Consultation Response from Chippenham Town Council**

Dear Future Chippenham Team,

In response to the Future Chippenham Consultation, the overriding view of Chippenham Town Councillors is that they do not agree with the proposals for any road in Chippenham. Please see attached comments from twelve individual Town Councillors which support this view (**Enclosed Document 1**). This is the official Chippenham Town Council response to the consultation as approved at the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on Thursday 04 March 2021.

Yours sincerely,

**Mark Smith** MBA LLB (Hons) CMgr FCMi FSLCC  
Chief Executive



**Councillor comments relating to Future Chippenham Consultation**

Against all three road options. I do not agree that Wiltshire Council should be consulting upon a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location. I believe selecting a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location would predetermine the Local Plan. I think all the options on offer would be immensely damaging in terms of environmental impact, traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. I have seen no validated evidence or transparent calculations on the population growth of Chippenham to justify the number of houses rumoured. (Cllr PB, Cllr AP, Cllr NP)

Against all three road options and against the road entirely. I also do not agree that Wiltshire Council should be consulting upon a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location. (Cllr A O'N)

Against all road options. I do not agree that Wiltshire should be consulting upon a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location and believe selecting a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location would predetermine the Local Plan. (Cllr BD)

Against all three of the road options. I believe selecting a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location would predetermine the Local Plan. I think all the options on offer would be immensely damaging in terms of environmental impact, traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. There is no evidence of benefits to Chippenham. The proposal does not accord with what the public told us during the early consultations for the Neighbourhood Plan. I have not added anything to the form you attached, since it does not allow for a 'no' option; further, I am concerned that responses may be skewed in favour of a road as the 'no' option was left out; therefore people may just select the "least worst" route. Yesterday at Wiltshire Council Cabinet Cllr Richard Clewer admitted that the consultation questionnaire should have included a 'no' option. Many members of the public have contacted me with the same concern. (Cllr CC)

Against all these road options and against the road entirely. I have not added anything to the questionnaire form you attached, since it does not allow for this. I also do not agree that Wiltshire Council should be consulting upon a road route before consulting on the number of houses and their possible location. (Cllr CR)

I believe that selecting a road route before consulting on the number of houses would predetermine the local plan. I also question the need for that number of houses in Chippenham. (Cllr DP)



Against all 3 road options, and indeed opposed to the way in which this consultation process is being conducted as it only provides options for a road and no options against the road. (Cllr JA)

I am opposed to the HIF bid and the proposals to put in a distributor road to enable two very large commuter extensions to be constructed in our surrounding countryside. I think the scale of expansion that the road is intended to enable would be immensely damaging to the character of our town, as well as surrounding towns and villages. It would also create far greater traffic congestion that it could possibly alleviate and destroy much of what local people value about living here, with absolutely no guarantee of any future benefits for the town. The road itself would enable the destruction of much of the Avon and Marden valley, removing farmland that is needed by future generations and destroying valuable natural capital in the process. It would also destroy an important carbon sink, release huge quantities of carbon in the construction of unnecessary viaducts over the river and canal and would lock in many years of tailpipe greenhouse gas emissions as a result of promoting commuting. I think the process of consulting on routes for a road, before considering anyone's views on the number of houses that may be needed and their possible locations around the town, is deeply flawed, as is the consultation form that doesn't allow for a 'none of these options' response, which according to Wiltshire Council's Deputy Leader at last week's Cabinet meeting, it should have done. I think the whole so-called 'Future Chippenham' HIF bid development process, which seems to have been designed to severely limit, if not predetermine, the Local Plan options, has been flawed from the outset, including the lack of public consultation, lack of transparency and Wiltshire Council's on-going refusal to share crucial information, for example with regards the conditions agreed with Homes England. (Cllr NM)

I regret to say I cannot support the plan in its present form. There seems to be no justification for the proposed level of new housing. Dumping 80% of Wiltshire's housing needs on to our town seems to me that the plan has been tailored to the HIF bid and vice versa. I do not approve of any of the road options which, in my view will result in the desecration of beautiful countryside and villages. The road to Lacock is a road to nowhere. WCC needs to go back to the drawing board. I could accept the 3500/4000 homes already planned for but no more. (Cllr RB)

Against all the road route options. I have not filled in the consultation questionnaire as it does not allow for this. I consider all the options on offer to be hugely damaging with respect to impact on the environment, traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. (Cllr RL)

5 Thinking about the options for the potential route of the distributor road and link road, what do you consider are the most important issues that the council should be considering?

Please select all that apply

- Improving the availability of sustainable transport infrastructure e.g. for buses, trains, bicycles and pedestrians
- Easing traffic congestion and improving journey times
- Climate change adaptation/mitigation
- Improving air/noise pollution
- Protecting and enhancing biodiversity e.g. animal and plant habitats
- Protecting and enhancing landscape and visual amenity
- Preserving and protecting heritage assets

Other

6 Please provide any further details you would like to give about the preferences given in the previous question. If you answered 'Other' please provide further details here.

If more space is required please continue on a separate sheet, referencing the question number.

7 Please rank the three potential road route options in order of preference.

Details about the potential road route options can be found in the consultation leaflet (page 7) available on the website [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/future-chippenham](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/future-chippenham)

1 = most preferred option; 3 = least preferred option



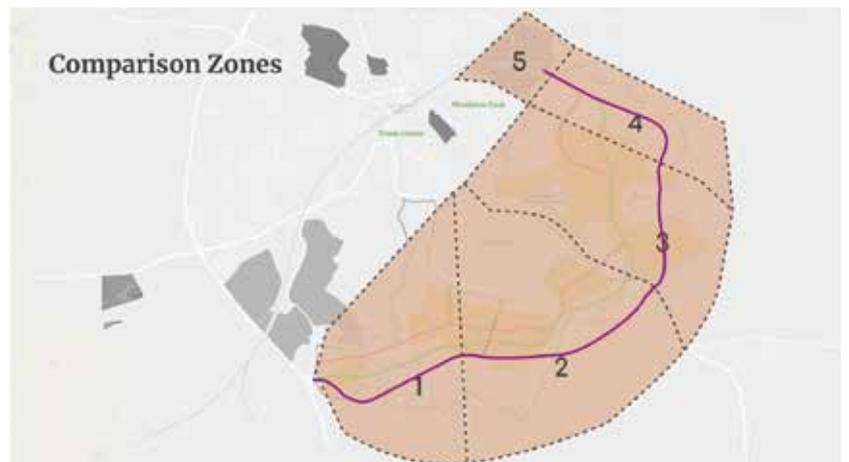
Option A - Outer route  
1

Option B - Middle route  
2

Option C - Inner route  
3

8 Please provide any specific feedback you would like to give about 'Option A - Outer route'.

To help us locate any area specific comments, please specify which Comparison Zone (1-5) your comments relate to.



If more space is required please continue on a separate sheet, referencing the question number.

- 9 Please provide any specific feedback you would like to give about 'Option B - Middle route'.

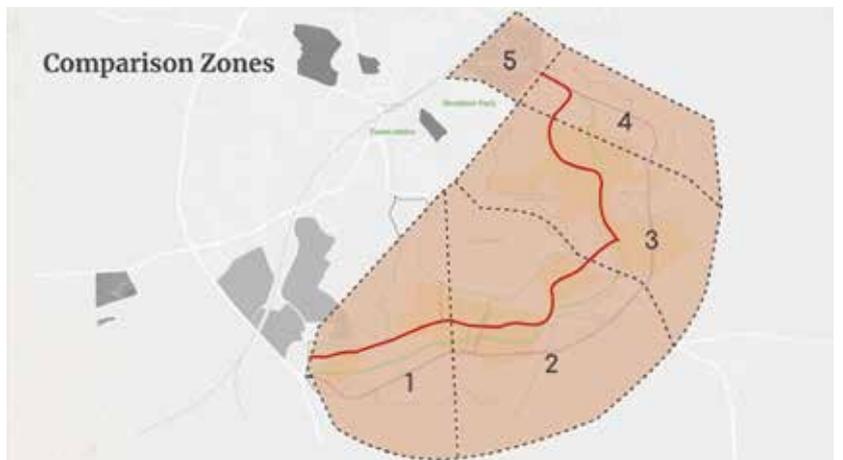
To help us locate any area specific comments, please specify which Comparison Zone (1-5) your comments relate to.



If more space is required please continue on a separate sheet, referencing the question number.

- 10 Please provide any specific feedback you would like to give about 'Option C - Inner route'.

To help us locate any area specific comments, please specify which Comparison Zone (1-5) your comments relate to.



If more space is required please continue on a separate sheet, referencing the question number.

11 Please rank the potential Pewsham link road options into order of preference.

Details about the potential Pewsham link road options can be found in the consultation leaflet (page 7) available on the website [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/future-chippenham](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/future-chippenham)

1 = most preferred option; 2 = least preferred option

Pewsham link option 1     Pewsham link option 3

12 Please provide any specific feedback you would like to give about 'Pewsham Link Option 1'.

If more space is required please continue on a separate sheet, referencing the question number.

13 Please provide any specific feedback you would like to give about 'Pewsham Link Option 3'.

If more space is required please continue on a separate sheet, referencing the question number.