

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA FOR THE EXECUTIVE

Date: Monday, 5 January 2015

Time: 6:00 pm

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

Executive Members:

Councillor S D T Woodward, Policy and Resources (Executive Leader)

Councillor T M Cartwright, MBE, Public Protection (Deputy Executive Leader)

Councillor B Bayford, Health and Housing

Councillor K D Evans, Planning and Development

Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley, Leisure and Community

Councillor L Keeble, Streetscene



1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of Executive held on 1st December 2014.

3. Executive Leader's Announcements

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest from members in accordance with Standing Orders and the Council's Code of Conduct.

5. Petitions

6. Deputations

To receive any deputations, of which notice has been lodged.

7. Minutes / References from Other Committees

To receive any reference from the committees or panels held.

Matters for Decision in Public

Note: Where an urgent item of business is raised in accordance with Part 3 of the Constitution, it will be considered with the relevant service decisions as appropriate.

8. Health and Housing

Key Decision Notice

(1) Award of Contract - Construction of Six Passivhaus Homes at Coldeast Sarisbury (Pages 9 - 16)

A report by the Director of Community.

9. Planning and Development

Non-Key Decision

(1) Titchfield Village Parking Review (Pages 17 - 30)

A report by the Director of Planning and Development.

10. Policy and Resources

Key Decision Notice

(1) Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax (Pages 31 - 40)

A report by the Director of Finance and Resources.

Non-Key Decision

(2) Community Fund Application - Adrian Stannard (Pages 41 - 42)

A report by the Director of Finance and Resources.

11. Exclusion of Public and Press

To consider whether it is in the public interest to exclude the public and representatives of the Press from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters to be dealt with involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Exempt Matters for Decision

Note: Where urgent items of business are raised in accordance with Part 3 of the Constitution, they will be considered with the relevant service decisions as appropriate.

12. Policy and Resources

Key Decision Notice

(1) Irrecoverable Debts (Pages 43 - 48)

A report by the Director of Finance and Resources.

P GRIMWOOD
Chief Executive Officer

www.fareham.gov.uk

26 December 2014

**For further information please contact:
Democratic Services, Civic Offices, Fareham, PO16 7AZ
Tel: 01329 236100
democraticservices@fareham.gov.uk**

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Executive

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Monday, 1 December 2014

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

Present:

S D T Woodward, Policy and Resources (Executive Leader)
T M Cartwright, MBE, Public Protection (Deputy Executive
Leader)
B Bayford, Health and Housing
K D Evans, Planning and Development
Mrs C L A Hockley, Leisure and Community
L Keeble, Streetscene

Also in attendance:

Mrs S M Bayford, Chairman of Streetscene Policy Development and Review Panel
Miss S M Bell, Chairman of Leisure and Community Policy Development and Review
Panel
P J Davies, Chairman of Housing Tenancy Board; for items 10(3) and 11(1)
Mrs M E Ellerton, Chairman of Health and Housing Policy Development and Review
Panel
A Mandry, Chairman of Planning and Development Policy Development and Review
Panel; for item 10(3)
Mrs K Mandry, Chairman of Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel
D C S Swanbrow, Chairman of Scrutiny Board; for item 10(3)
N J Walker, Chairman of Planning Committee
Mrs K K Trott, for items 8(1), 8(3) and 10(3)
C J Wood, for items 8(3), 10(2), 10(3) and 10(4)



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies given for this meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 3 November 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Executive Leader's announcements made at this meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. PETITIONS

There were no petitions submitted at this meeting.

6. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations received at this meeting.

7. MINUTES / REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**7(1) Planning and Development PDR Panel: 4 November 2014**Minute 8 – Presentation: Titchfield Village Parking Review

It was AGREED that the Executive note the Panel's comments in considering the proposed changes to the 3 main parking areas in Titchfield:

The Square - To change 8 additional spaces that are currently unrestricted to 30-minute parking, which would increase the total number of 30-minute spaces to 13.

Barry's Meadow Car Park (3-hour limit) – To remove the business permits currently issued for this car park which would free up extra spaces for visitor use.

Community Centre Car Park (24-hour limit) – To change the internal layout of the car park which would create an additional 25-30 spaces.

Members commented on the proposal for the changes to the 3 parking areas agreeing that whilst it will not solve all of the problems it is a fair compromise.

A report on this item will be presented to the Executive at a future meeting.

7(2) Leisure and Community PDR Panel: 4 November 2014Minute 7 – Citizens Advice Bureau Service Level Agreement – Update

Councillor Price addressed the Panel to comment that he felt the CAB was one of the best recognised organisations who provide free and impartial advice, and he feels that Fareham Borough Council should continue to provide support to them. He also requested whether the Executive could find a little more funding to assist the CAB with their way forward.

It was AGREED that:

- b) the Executive notes the comments made by Councillor Price.

7(3) Public Protection PDR Panel: 11 November 2014

Minute 7 – Traffic Management Programme

AGREED:

- d) the Proposed Traffic Regulation Order Programme, as shown in Appendix B (Table 4) to the report, be recommended to the Executive for approval; and
- e) the work undertaken on the deployment of the Speed Limit Reminder signs, as detailed in Appendix D to the report, be recommended to the Executive for noting.

A report on this item will be presented to the Executive at a future meeting.

7(4) Scrutiny Board: 20 November 2014

Minute 7 – Community Action Team (CAT) Review

The Board considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the proposed Community Action Team (CAT) Review.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor N R Gregory addressed the Board during the consideration of this item.

The Head of Corporate Services presented the report and answered members' questions thereon.

It was AGREED that the Executive be advised of the Board's views on the proposed community action team review, as shown in Appendix B to the report, as follows:-

- (a) the role of the Chairmen of Community Action Teams should be consistent, with a local connection, as is observed with the existing arrangements;
- (b) the role of chairing Community Action Team meetings should be separated from the role of Councillors answering questions related to policy, or officers answering technical questions;
- (c) the principle of 'hot topic' meetings was supported;

- (d) there should be a cyclical meeting for general business raised by residents and residents' associations in the year that the CAT was not due to receive the Leader of the Council's biennial presentation;
- (e) the principle of not continuing the police presence at meetings, unless for a specific police-related hot topic, be supported;
- (f) the principle of the biennial 'Meet the Leader' sessions be supported;
- (g) the principle of ten CAT areas be supported, but meetings should be publicised to wider areas when relevant to the topic for discussion;
- (h) publicity should be wide and broad enough to encourage wider attendance, particularly for Meet the Leader meetings so residents have the opportunity to attend these meetings more frequently;
- (i) the idea of multiple meetings in a community for a single topic, to maximise the opportunity to engage with local residents, be supported;
- (j) the Special Responsibility Allowance payable to members for being CAT Chairmen should be removed.

8. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY

(1) Review of Community Buildings - Fareham Town CAT Area

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor Mrs K K Trott addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive approves the master plan for the Fareham CATs area.

(2) Review of Community Buildings - Western Wards CAT Area

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the Master Plan for the Western Wards Community Action Team area;
- (b) agrees that the designation of the land at Hook Recreation Ground be changed from "parks and amenity open space" to "natural green space", be no longer for formal sports provision and that the changing rooms be demolished within 12 months, if a suitable alternative use for the building cannot be found; and
- (c) approves a project to improve the WC facilities and replace the main hall flooring at the Whiteley Community Centre at a budget cost of £100,000 with a maximum of £90,000 to be funded from

the Whiteley Development Fund and the balance to be funded by the Whiteley Community Association.

(3) Leisure Strategy

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors C J Wood and Mrs K K Trott addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive adopts the revised Leisure Strategy for 2014 – 2019, as set out in Appendix A of the report, subject to the inclusion of an additional appendix to show the provision of current leisure facilities throughout the borough.

9. STREETSCENE

(1) Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2011

RESOLVED that the Executive endorses the recommendation made by the Streetscene Policy and Development Review Panel at its meeting on 23 October 2014, and agrees:

- (a) that no changes are required to the collection of recyclable materials currently co-mingled in the blue top recycling bins; and
- (b) that officers will assess any proposed collection policy changes against the new regulations prior to any recommendations being put to Members for decision.

10. POLICY AND RESOURCES

(1) Western Wards Leisure Centre - Project Funding

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) agrees the list of assets for disposal contained in the report, and in confidential Appendix B and requests officers to investigate the possibility of adding Locks Heath Memorial Hall to the list of assets to be considered for disposal, subject to there being appropriate alternative locations for existing clubs to use; and
- (b) agrees the funding arrangements for the Western Wards Leisure Centre.

(2) 2015/16 Draft Spending Plans

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor C J Wood addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the updated capital programme as set out in Appendix A to the report;
- (b) approves the revised revenue budget for 2014/15 and the proposed revenue budget for 2015/16, as set out in Appendix B to the report;
- (c) approves the proposed fees and charges for 2015/16, as set out in Appendix D to the report;
- (d) agrees the use of Section 13A to provide a Council Tax discount to flooded properties in accordance with guidance issued by Government as set out in paragraphs 23 – 29 of the report; and
- (e) recommends to Council an unchanged Local Council Tax Scheme for 2015/16, as set out in Appendix E of the report.

(3) Community Action Team (CAT) Review

The comments of the Scrutiny Board were taken into account when considering this item - see minute 7(4) and at the invitation of the Executive Leader, the Chairman of the Scrutiny Board joined the Executive for this item.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors A Mandry, C J Wood, Mrs K K Trott and P J Davies addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that:

- (a) the five CAT areas be replaced with ten smaller neighbourhood areas;
- (b) the majority of CAT meetings be replaced with single agenda item meetings, that take place only when there is a 'hot topic' occurring in a neighbourhood at a relevant critical time;
- (c) "Meet the Leader" summer meetings be arranged for all of the new CAT neighbourhood areas each year, combining as appropriate, with senior representatives from the Police invited to be in attendance; and
- (d) the most appropriate experienced Chairman for individual meetings be nominated by the Executive Leader on a meeting by meeting basis.

(4) Matched Funding - Quarterly Report

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor C J Wood addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees the following matched funding awards:

- (a) £5,000 subject to review, dependent on any contribution by Gosport Borough Council to Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club and subject to a Community Use Agreement being put in place;

(b) £25,000 to Titchfield Amateur Boxing Club; and

(c) £27,600 to the Catisfield Scout Group.

(5) Daedalus Investment Project - Progress Report

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the progress made to date on the Daedalus Investment Project, as detailed in the report.

11. POLICY AND RESOURCES/HEALTH AND HOUSING

(1) Purchase of Garages - Wynton Way, Fareham

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor P J Davies addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive approves the terms provisionally agreed for the purchase of two garages located at Wynton Way, Fareham, as set out in confidential Appendix A.

12. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting, as the Executive considers that it is not in the public interest to consider the matters in public on the grounds that they will involve the disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

13. POLICY AND RESOURCES

(1) Tenders - Six Monthly Report

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the details of all tenders received and contracts awarded, over the value of £50,000, during the six month period ending 6 October 2014, as set out in confidential Appendix A to the report.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.42 pm).

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 05 January 2015

Portfolio:	Environment and Health and Housing
Subject:	Award of Contract - Construction of Six Passivhaus Homes at Coldeast Close, Sarisbury
Report of:	Director of Community
Strategy/Policy:	Housing Strategy
Corporate Objective:	A Balanced Housing Market

Purpose:

This report seeks approval to enter into contract with a selected developer for the construction of 6 x 2 bedroom Passivhaus homes at Coldeast Close in Sarisbury.

Executive summary:

On 7th April 2014 the Executive approved a provisional budget to fund the construction of 6 new affordable homes at Coldeast Close in Sarisbury. In addition to providing much needed rented homes, the project will showcase the merits of building to the rigorous 'Passivhaus' standard and will inform future development expectations for Welborne.

Since the last report, the design for the homes has been set and planning permission has been secured. In addition, £120,000 of grant funding has been secured via the Homes and Communities Agency 2015-2018 Affordable Homes Programme to help meet the costs of construction.

A two stage competitive tender has been conducted to identify a suitable contractor to construct the scheme. Approval is sought from the Executive to enter into contact with the recommended contractor and bring the scheme forward.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

That the Executive:

- a) Notes the level of grant funding secured from the Homes and Communities Agency to support delivery of the project;
- b) Approves a revised budget of £1,000,000 in light of the funding secured and the costs of construction confirmed by the tender; and
- c) Authorises the Director of Community to enter into contract with Interserve Construction Limited to complete the proposed development

Reason:

To enable new affordable homes to be built, which will meet local housing needs, inform future housing construction at Welborne, and contribute to the corporate objective of enabling 500 new affordable homes by 2017.

Cost of proposals:

The confirmed budget required for this development is £1,000,000. This will cover the cost of construction and all on costs associated to the development.

The contract sum for the cost of construction is £838,799.82. This will be met from the Housing Revenue Account and funding secured from the HCA.

Appendices:

A: Schedule of Tenders - Confidential

Background papers:

- Report to the Executive for Decision 7th April 2014 – Affordable Housing Programme 2015-18

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 05 January 2015

Subject: Award of Contract - Construction of Six Passivhaus Homes at Coldeast, Sarisbury

Briefing by: Director of Community

Portfolio: Environment and Health and Housing

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to secure approval from the Executive to award a contract to the recommended building contractor to construct 6 new Passivhaus homes at Coldeast Close, Sarisbury Green.

BACKGROUND

2. Passivhaus is an approach to building design developed in Germany in the 1980's that aims to achieve consistent internal ambient temperatures with minimum reliance on heating and cooling services. As such, Passivhaus homes have the potential to provide a high level of occupant comfort while significantly reducing utility bills. The Council has set a target that 10% of homes in Welborne will be Passivhaus Certified.
3. To achieve the standard, homes must be built with meticulous attention to detail ensuring specific requirements are achieved in terms of air tightness, air circulation, and solar gain. The build process will typically involve very high levels of insulation, extremely high performance windows with insulated frames, airtight building fabric, 'thermal bridge free' construction, and a mechanical ventilation system with highly efficient heat recovery. As the fabric of the building itself achieves high levels of energy efficiency the need for mechanical 'bolt on' technology such as solar panels is reduced.
4. Passivhaus is still a relatively new concept in the UK. There are presently no such homes in Fareham and only one in Hampshire. The standard has more commonly been used on bespoke housing projects rather standard and affordable housing development. As such there is limited knowledge locally and it is understandable that volume house builders working in the area may be apprehensive about building to such standards.

This exemplar housing scheme aims to explore the challenges of achieving the exacting Passivhaus standard and showcase the benefits of doing so, both to house builders and local residents. It is anticipated that the project will demonstrate that Passivhaus is a viable method of achieving highly energy efficient housing. The knowledge gained from

the project will serve to inform future housing development at Welborne, (where 10% of new homes will be built to Passivhaus standard) and in the Borough as a whole.

THE PROPOSAL

5. Through the acquisition of 4 houses in Coldeast Close, Sarisbury the Council has secured a small area of land suitable for residential development. The land consists of former garage access and 4 large back gardens to the homes in the Council's ownership. The land is a recognised housing site in the Council's Local Plan.
6. Full planning permission was secured in July 2014 to construct 6 x 2 bedroom Passivhaus homes along with associated parking and landscaping. Each home benefits from a private back garden which shall be supplied with external storage and drying facilities. Once completed the homes will be let at 'affordable rents' to households registered on the Council's Housing Waiting List.
7. Since securing permission, detailed design work has been completed prior to tendering the construction contract. Whilst this is not the typical approach to a 'design and build' project it was viewed as an important step to ensure the attention to detail needed was captured within the tender process and the subsequent contract. Site preparation work has also been undertaken in an effort to ensure a start on site can be achieved in early Spring 2015.

THE TENDER PROCESS

A two-stage competitive tender exercise has been conducted to select a design and build contractor with the appropriate skills and experience to construct the Passivhaus homes.

8. The first stage was in the form of a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) placed on the South-East Business Portal, which was made open to all to apply. A total of 13 submissions were received. Each submission was assessed to determine relevant skills, experience and expertise to establish a shortlist of 4 companies to invite to complete the second stage.
9. The second stage of the tender process was assessed upon cost only. Interserve Construction Limited submitted the most competitive tender. The company have a regional office in Southampton and have experience of building Passivhaus in both commercial and residential buildings elsewhere in the UK.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The contract sum submitted by Interserve totals £828,299.82. This is offered as a fixed sum to cover the cost of design and construction to practical completion. There are two items of work not included in the proposal, which will be included as provisional sums. These relate to the provision of lighting on the site and connection of sewer services. Our appointed Surveyor has recommended a provisional sum of £10,500 to cover this work, resulting in a final contract sum of £838,799.82.
11. In April 2014 the Executive approved a provisional total budget (excluding land acquisition) of £854,000 to be funded by the Housing Revenue Account. This figure was based upon officer projections of the likely construction cost. Subsequent to setting the budget the Council successfully secured £120,000 to help fund the development via the Homes and Communities Agency's 2015-2018 Affordable Homes Programme. In light of the now confirmed cost of construction and to enable the project to progress, the

total budget needs to be increased to £1,000,000 inclusive of the funding secured.

TIMETABLE FOR DELIVERY

12. If approval is given to enter into contract, it is anticipated that construction shall commence in April 2015. Construction is anticipated to take circa 50 weeks to complete.

Reference Papers:

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 5 January 2015

Portfolio:	Planning and Development
Subject:	Titchfield Village Parking Review
Report of:	Director of Planning and Development
Strategy/Policy:	Local Plan: Adopted Core Strategy (August 2011) and Publication Development Sites and Policies Plan (February 2014)
Corporate Objective:	Protect and Enhance the Environment Maintain and Extend Prosperity

Purpose:

To consider and, if appropriate, approve recommendations for changes to the parking arrangements in Titchfield Village Centre, including The Square, Barry's Meadow Car Park and Titchfield Community Centre Car Park.

Executive summary:

An assessment of the use of main car parks in Titchfield Village Centre has been carried out following the approval of proposals to carry out a review of car parking in the Village at the Executive Decision Meeting on 15 April 2013. The proposals included recommendations to undertake local consultation with interested parties and survey work to establish the patterns of use of the main car parks and provide evidence to support bringing forward a package of measures to improve the existing parking arrangements.

This Report provides a summary of the data collection exercise carried out in May 2014 and describes the recommended options identified for implementation in the three main car parks in Titchfield Village.

Recommendation:

That the Executive supports the proposal and recommendations to change the parking arrangements in Titchfield Village Centre, comprising:

- (a) for The Square, to introduce 8 extra spaces restricted to 30-minute parking (no return within one hour) between 8am and 6pm Monday to Sunday, resulting in a total of 13 spaces with this restriction; and in addition to convert one space in the south-western corner of The Square to motor-cycle parking only;
- (b) for Barry's Meadow Car Park, to withdraw existing parking permits for business users previously issued for this car park; and

(c) for Titchfield Community Centre Car Park, to re-arrange the internal layout of the car park to create an estimated 25 to 30 extra parking spaces.

Reason:

To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of Titchfield Village Centre by improving parking arrangements for visitors, residents and businesses.

Cost of proposals:

It is provisionally estimated that the total cost of implementing the changes would be in the range £5,000 to £6,000.

- Appendices:**
- A: Location of Car Parks**
 - B: Comments Received at the 25 February 2014 CAT Meeting**
 - C: Daily Occupancy of Parking Spaces in The Square**
 - D: Duration of Stay for Barry's Meadow Car Park**
 - E: Duration of Stay for Titchfield Community Centre Car Park**
 - F: Proposed Changes to The Square**

Background papers: None

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 5 January 2015

Subject: Titchfield Village Parking Review

Briefing by: Director of Planning and Development

Portfolio: Planning and Development

INTRODUCTION

1. Approval to undertake a Parking Review in Titchfield Village Centre was agreed at the Executive Meeting on 15 April 2013. Following approval to carry out the Review, the main car parks in the Village Centre were surveyed in July 2013 to assess the usage of parking spaces and enable solutions to be drawn up for addressing identified problems.
2. An analysis of results from the July 2013 survey was presented at a Special CAT Meeting held on 25 February 2014 to discuss parking in Titchfield Village. As a result of concerns raised in respect of these results providing an adequate explanation of car park usage, a new data collection exercise was authorised to supplement the results of the earlier survey.
3. The particular objective of the new survey, undertaken in May 2014, was to obtain a better understanding of the patterns of use of the main car parks and the causes of difficulties experienced by residents, businesses and visitors when parking in the Village Centre. In particular, it was considered necessary to collect data that would enable the correlation of duration of stay of individual vehicles to turnover of parking spaces and total occupancy of each car park.
4. Information from the May 2014 surveys has provided the primary evidence base for bringing forward proposals as part of the Village Parking Review. The options considered were intended to meet the principal aims of the Review as set out in the report to the Executive Meeting for Decision on 15 April 2013, and to address concerns communicated to Fareham Borough Council, including those received at CAT Meetings.
5. The main parking areas covered in the Titchfield Village Parking Review are listed below with their current capacities and restrictions. Locations are shown in Appendix A.
 - The Square (31 parking spaces, with the majority of spaces unrestricted)
 - Barry's Meadow Car Park (60 parking spaces, with a 3-hour limit)
 - Titchfield Community Centre (92 parking spaces, with a 24-hour limit)
6. This paper summarises the main findings of the Review, including the results of the survey carried out in May 2014 and assessment of options considered to resolve the

problems identified.

7. The principal findings of the Review were presented at the Autumn CAT Meeting in Titchfield on 8 October 2014, chaired by Cllr Miss T.G. Harper, and subsequently presented to a meeting of the Titchfield Village Trust.
8. The Titchfield Village Parking Review is complementary to and contemporaneous with the development and implementation of proposals by the Borough Council to modify the on-street parking arrangements in South Street.

PARKING SURVEY PROGRAMME 2014

9. Although durations of stay of parked vehicles could be determined from the July 2013 survey, it was not possible from the data collected in this survey to ascertain the total occupancy of car parks at a given time nor to assess the usage of spaces by individual vehicles. The chosen method of surveying for the 2014 Programme therefore recorded partial number plates as vehicle identifiers via 'beat surveys', with surveyors repeating their circuits (beats) every 30 minutes throughout the day. This is a well-established methodology deployed on many previous surveys and provides reasonably precise information on the timing of parking events in individual spaces without the requirement to interview vehicle occupants.
10. The design of the new survey was informed by an analysis of responses received at the 25 February 2014 CAT Meeting and subsequently in correspondence with Fareham Borough Council. A summary of comments received is presented in Appendix B.
11. A total of 86 responses were received, covering a range of points including suggestions on how to change the existing parking arrangements in The Square, specific provision for residents or selected groups of drivers, and better enforcement of regulations. The highest numbers of responses related to the potential impact of new measures on parking in West Street and effect of delivery vehicles on restricting traffic movements in The Square.
12. A specification and programme for the data collection exercise were agreed with Hampshire County Council's Traffic Survey Team. Complementing the main survey, Fareham Borough Council officers were also in attendance to record general observations of parking in the Village Centre and the effect of deliveries in The Square.
13. The parking survey was undertaken over a continuous 12-hour period (7am to 7pm) on 4 days in May 2014, avoiding public holidays and local special events to represent as far as possible average yearly conditions, and covering both the variation between days of the week and different weeks. The survey days were:
 - Tuesday, 13 May 2014
 - Friday, 16 May 2014
 - Saturday, 17 May 2014
 - Tuesday, 20 May 2014
14. By ensuring that data recording in each car park was consistent and synchronised, it would also be possible to construct a detailed picture of the status of all parking areas during periods of high demand. This would assist in assessing the impact of proposals for one car park on the remaining parking areas within the Village Centre.

SURVEY RESULTS

15. The combined data set derived from the May 2014 survey could be used to determine turnover of spaces and duration of stay for individual vehicles in both the two main car parks and The Square. This was particularly relevant for The Square where it was considered necessary to assess both characteristics in combination in order to explain the current patterns.

Headline Figures for The Square (31 spaces)

16. Whilst there is strong demand for short-term parking (up to 30-minutes) in The Square, the spaces are also used for longer term-parking during the day resulting in fewer spaces being available for visitors.
17. The occupation of spaces in The Square over longer time periods was found to be a combination of vehicles present at the start of the survey (0700 hours) and leaving later in the day, and vehicles arriving during the morning peak and staying until the end of the survey period. A number of spaces were also occupied by the same vehicle continuously throughout the day.
18. It was also evident that the 5 existing spaces restricted to 30-minute parking operated efficiently, with a good turnover of short-term visits.
19. With regard to occupancy of spaces, the survey data showed that:
- Parking spaces are regularly full or close to full on all days
 - More than 50% of available spaces are occupied at all times during the day
 - Appendix C shows graphically the occupancy of spaces every 30 minutes over the 12-hour survey period on Tuesday 13 May 2014.
20. In terms of duration of stay the predominant demand was for short-term parking, as evidenced by the figures below:
- 85% of total visits are for 30 minutes or less
 - 94% of total visits are for 2 hours or less
 - 1% of total visits are longer than 8 hours.
21. In terms of parking restrictions:
- There is an efficient use of the 5 spaces restricted to 30-minutes parking (8am to 6pm)
 - Disabled parking bay restrictions are generally adhered to.
22. Taken together, these results show a high demand for short-term parking in The Square and general compliance with existing restrictions that apply to a number of spaces. However, it is also apparent that the parking area operates at or close to capacity at certain times during the day and that often there are only a few spaces available.
23. It was also observed that vehicles parked in the space on the south-west corner of The Square restricted visibility for drivers turning to or from West Street, and comments were received by the Borough Council to the effect that this also inhibited to a degree the safe crossing of The Square by pedestrians.

Headline Figures for Barry's Meadow (60 spaces, 3-hour limit)

24. In terms of duration of stay, the main demand is for visits of 2 hours or less, as illustrated by the statistics below and Appendix D plotting the results for Tuesday 13 May for Barry's Meadow Car Park:
- 55% of total visits are 30 minutes or less
 - 83% of total visits are 2 hours or less
 - 3% of total visits are longer than 8 hours
25. In terms of car park occupancy, Barry's Meadow Car Park operates at or close to capacity on weekdays, typically in the period between 1000 and 1300 hours.

Headline Figures for Titchfield Community Centre (92 spaces, 24-hour limit)

26. In terms of duration of stay around one third of visits (36%) are for longer than 2 hours and only 32% stay for 30 minutes or less, as illustrated by the statistics below and Appendix E plotting the results for Tuesday 13 May for the Community Centre Car Park:
- 32% of total visits are 30 minutes or less
 - 64% of total visits are 2 hours or less
 - 1% of total visits are longer than 8 hours
27. In terms of car park occupancy, Titchfield Community Centre Car Park operates at or above capacity during busy weekday periods.

Other Survey Observations

28. With regard to parking elsewhere in the Village Centre, it was observed that at busy times there was overspill parking on yellow lines on High Street, coincident with periods when the other parking areas, including the spaces at the southern end of South Street, were recorded as full. However, there was no evidence of significant visitor parking in West Street either at these times or during other survey periods.
29. Due to their size and unloading, it was noticeable that delivery vehicles associated with The Cooperative store located in the south-eastern corner of The Square were liable to cause disruption to both through traffic and parking manoeuvres in the immediate vicinity of the store.

PROPOSALS

Proposed Changes to The Square

30. The analysis of survey data showed that whilst there is strong demand for short-term parking (up to 30 minutes), spaces are also used for longer-term parking during the day and this resulted in reduced availability of spaces with The Square.
31. Since alternative parking areas designated as long-term (up to 24-hours) are available in the Village Centre, it is proposed that the 30-minute parking restriction is extended to include other spaces in The Square.
32. This is supported by the evidence from the survey that the 5 existing spaces with the 30-minute restriction are characterised by a healthy turnover.
- 33. *The proposal for The Square is therefore to introduce a further 8 spaces restricted to 30-minute parking (no return within one hour) between 8am and 6pm***

Monday to Sunday.

34. ***The additional 8 designated spaces would be located in the south-eastern corner of The Square, adjacent to the existing spaces, and adding to the 5 existing restricted spaces, to provide a single block of 13 clearly identified '30-minute' restricted spaces. These spaces are delineated in Appendix F.***
35. Several other options were considered but are not recommended for taking forward at this stage. These were:
- The introduction of a 2-hour limit on parking in The Square
 - A residents' parking scheme for The Square

Proposed Changes to Barry's Meadow Car Park

36. As can be seen from the survey results a large majority of visits are for 2 hours or less, with the average stay longer than the equivalent figure for The Square. Interview data from previous surveys has indicated that a significant number of visits were associated with the nearby doctors' surgery.
37. Although turnover is satisfactory, the Car Park operates with little or no spare capacity during periods of high demand.
38. ***The proposal for Barry's Meadow Car Park is therefore to withdraw existing parking permits for business users previously issued for the Car Park. This would free up spaces allowing more visitors to use the Car Park.***
39. ***The withdrawal of business permits would be timed to coincide with the availability of additional spaces in the Community Centre Car Park, as referred to in Paragraph 41 below.***

Proposed Changes to Titchfield Community Centre Car Park

40. The survey results indicate that the average duration of stay is longer than for the other car parks: around one third of visits are one third or less; one third are between 30 minutes and 2 hours; and one third are above 2 hours. Turnover is satisfactory, however the car park operates at or above nominal capacity with the expectation that additional demand may be generated by drivers transferring from The Square.
41. ***The proposal for The Community Centre Car Park is therefore to re-arrange the internal layout of the car park to create more spaces than currently available. It is estimated that this should provide an additional 25 to 30 spaces overall.***
42. ***This proposal would deliver an increase in total number of long-term spaces available, compensating for the displacement of vehicles linked to the withdrawal of permits for Barry's Meadow Car Park.***

PANEL CONSIDERATIONS

43. A presentation of results from the May 2014 surveys and proposed changes to the parking arrangements in Titchfield Village Centre was given by officers to the Members of the Planning and Development Policy Development and Review Panel (P&D PD&R) Meeting held on 4 November 2014.

44. Following the comments received by Panel Members generally endorsing the proposals, an additional measure was put forward for The Square, as follows:
- 45. *It is proposed that the single space in the south-western corner of The Square be converted to 'Motor-cycle' parking only.***

RISK ASSESSMENT

46. Potential risks associated with the safety of road and off-street car park users will be fully taken into account in the implementation of the proposals.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

47. It is provisionally estimated that the cost to Fareham Borough Council of implementing the recommended changes would be in the range £5,000 to £6,000. The necessary level of funding for this work would be available from the pre-authorised parking strategy budget.

CONSULTATIONS

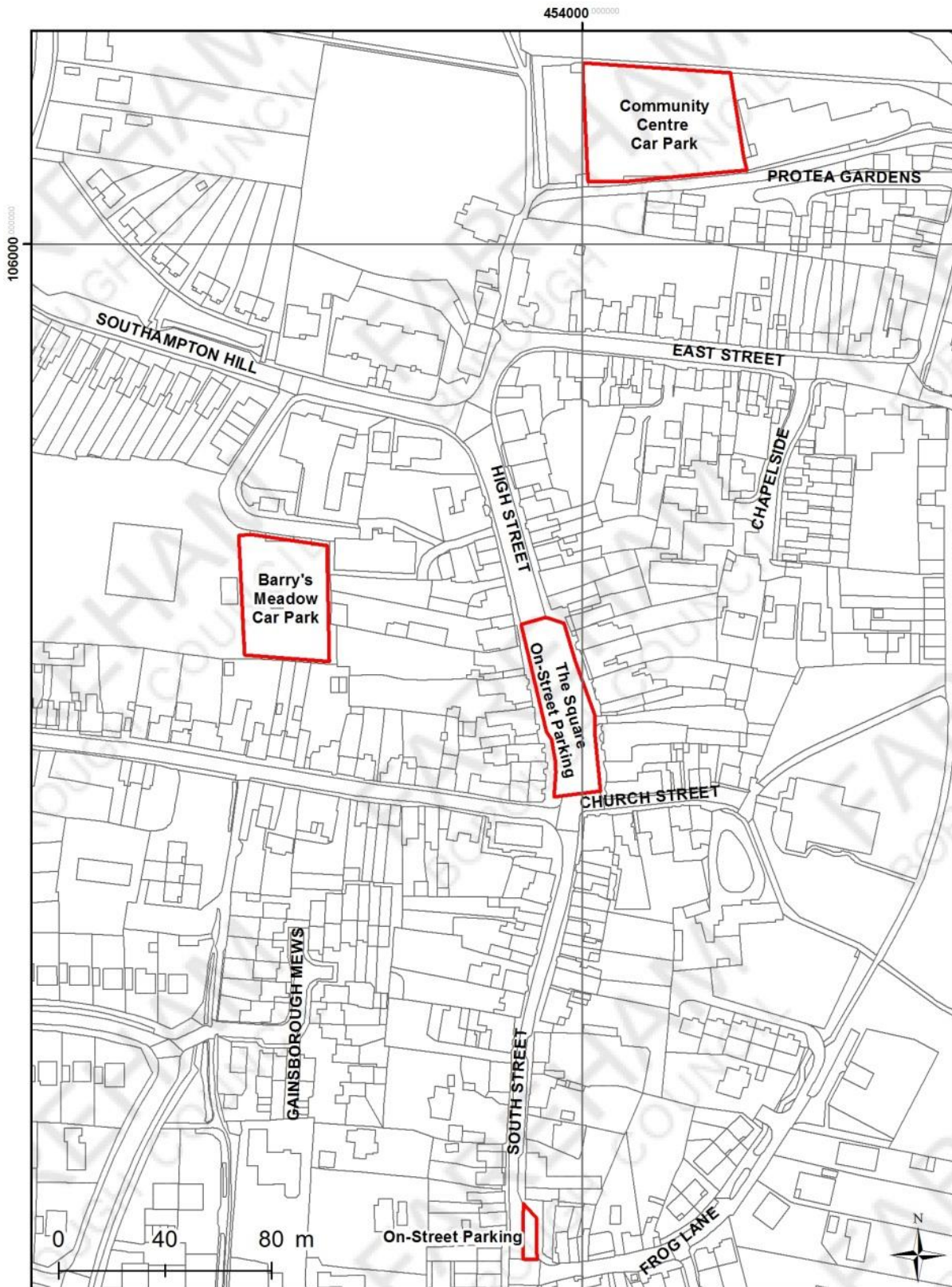
48. Residents and local Councillors have been fully informed of the process of developing these proposals through CAT meetings arranged by Fareham Borough Council in Titchfield Village.

CONCLUSIONS

49. A package of complementary measures is proposed which in combination is considered will resolve the difficulties currently experienced in car parking in Titchfield Village Centre, as evidenced by the analysis of data from the parking surveys conducted in May 2014. In particular, these proposals are designed to improve the balance between short and long term parking in order to increase the turnover of spaces and provide limited additional capacity.
50. Should these measures be approved, implementation would be programmed to ensure that businesses and other users of the car parks could benefit from the increased provision of long-term spaces. At the same time shoppers and other visitors would be able to take advantage of the greater availability of short-term spaces in the Village Centre.
51. In The Square, designating more spaces with restricted 30-minute parking should free-up more spaces for short term parking and improve the turnover of spaces.
52. In Barry's Meadow Car Park, withdrawing existing business permits should allow more short term visits. This would be timed to coincide with the provision of additional spaces in the Community Centre Car Park.
53. In Titchfield Community Centre Car Park, creating extra parking spaces within the boundaries of the existing car park should provide more capacity for long term parking.
54. The provision of Disabled bays would be unaffected by these changes, and one space in The Square would be allocated to motor-cycle parking only.

Reference Papers: None

Appendix A – Location of Car Parks

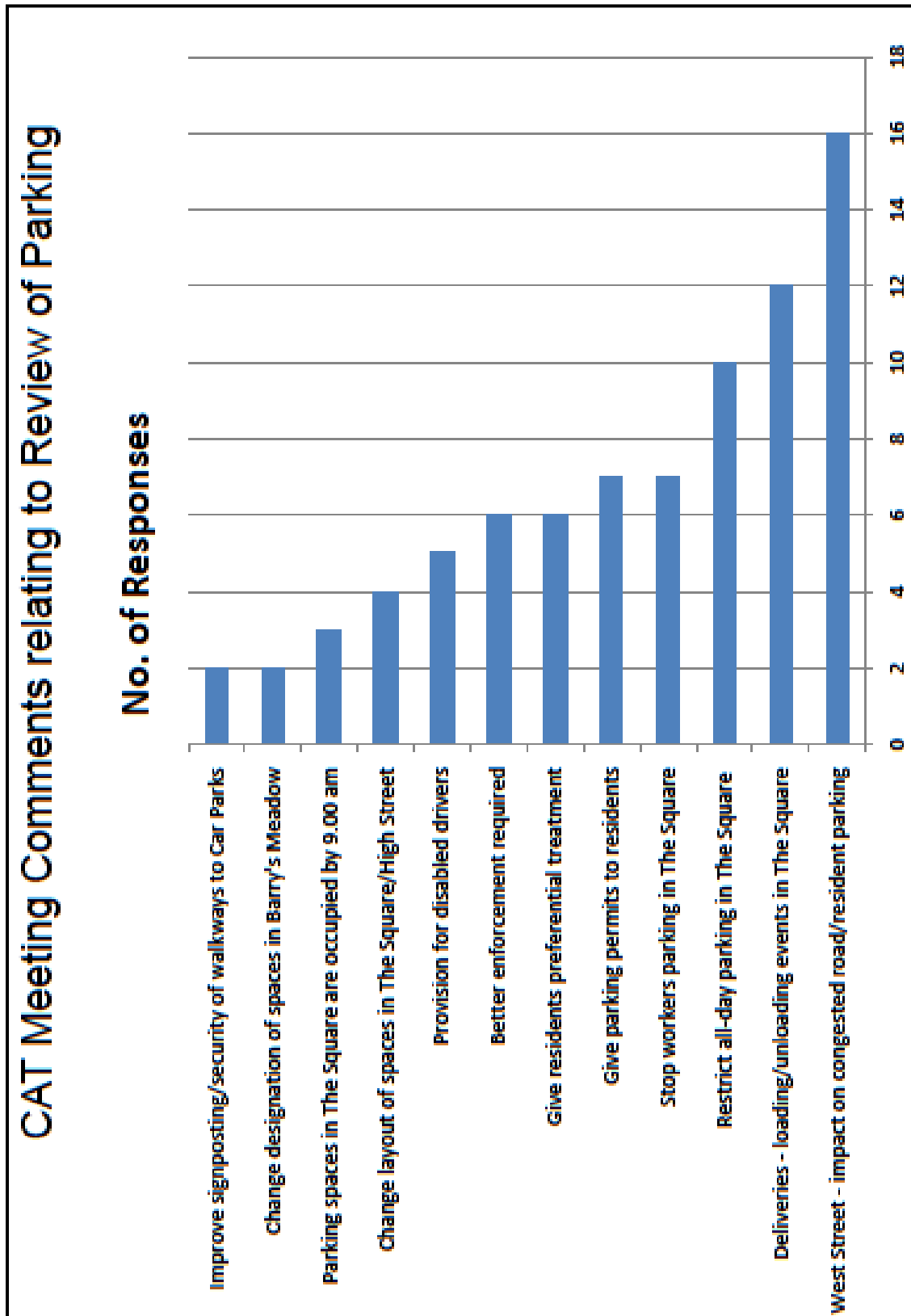


Titchfield Village Car Parks

FAREHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

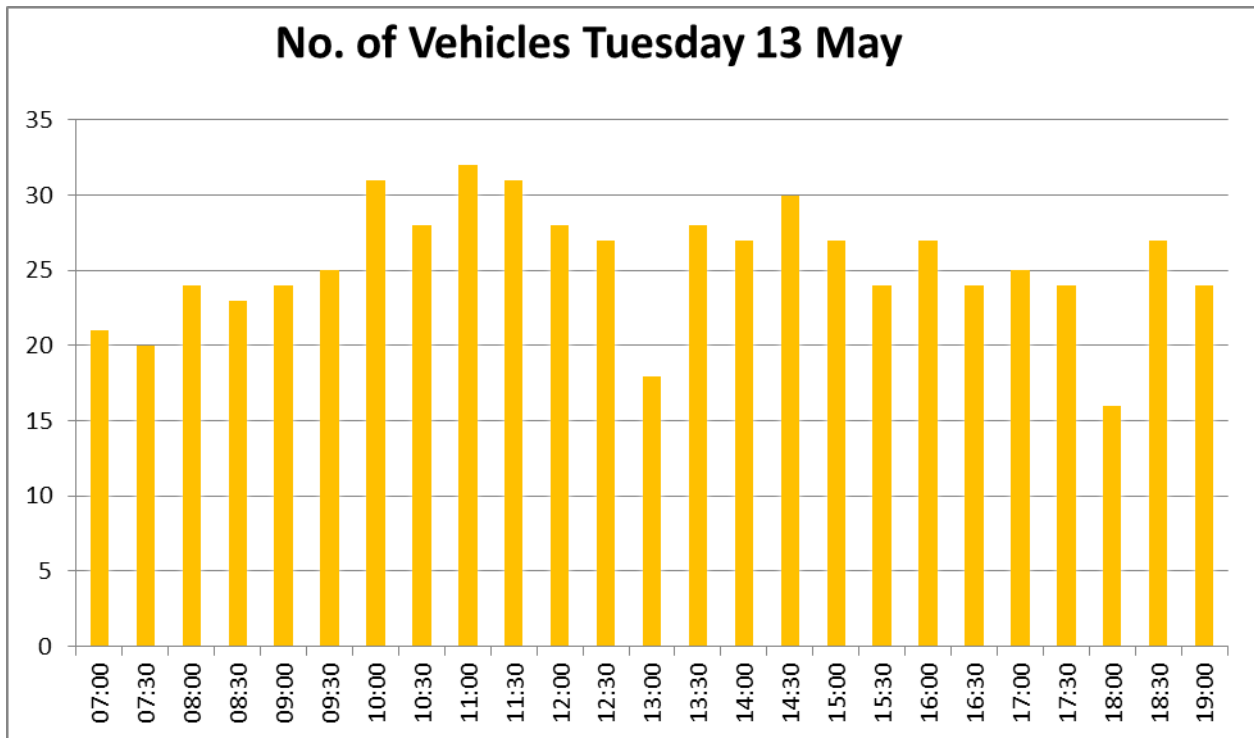
This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence 100019110. 2013

Appendix B – Comments Received at the 25 February 2014 CAT Meeting



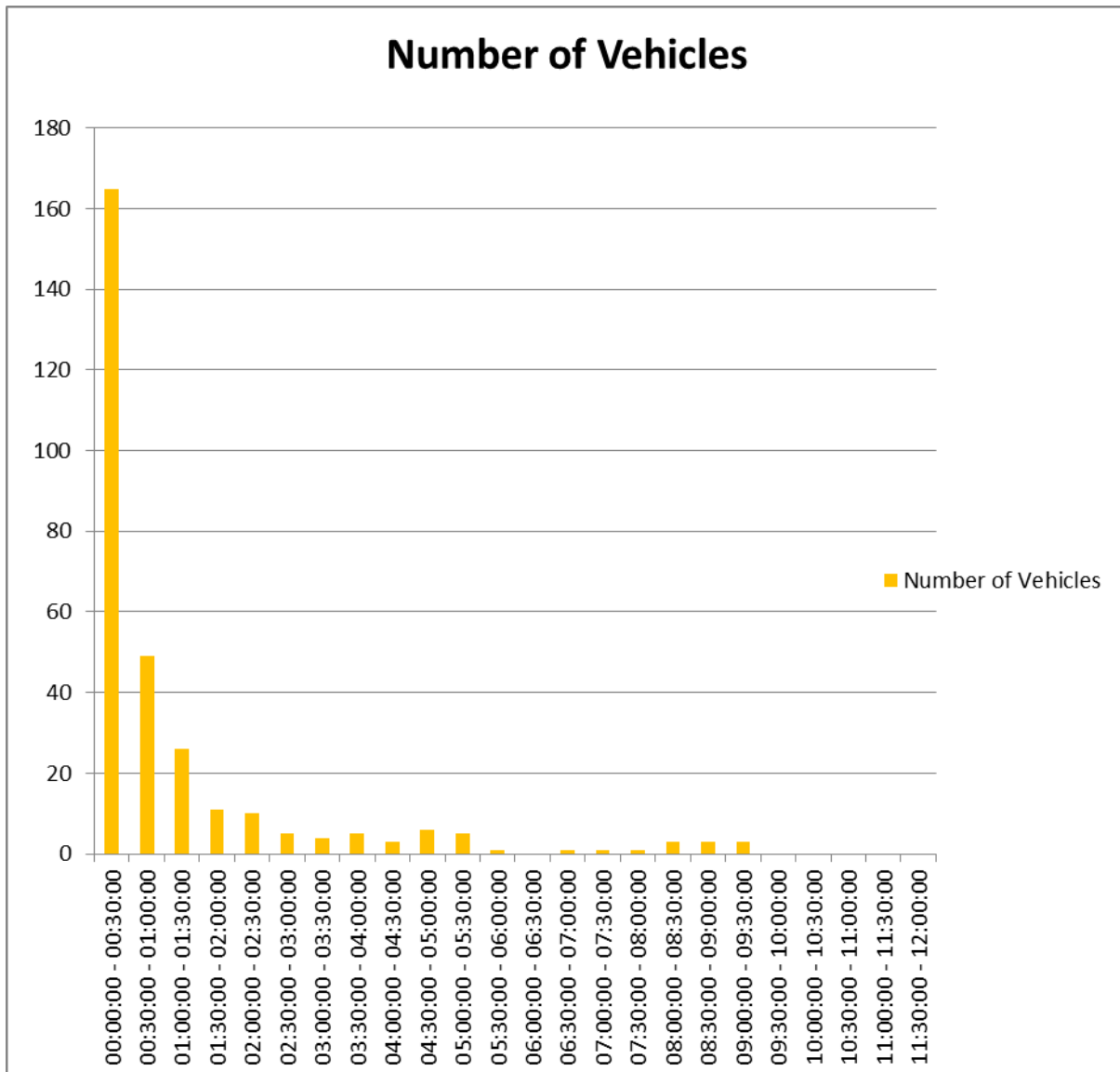
Appendix C – Daily Occupancy of Parking Spaces in The Square

Tuesday 13 May 2014 – occupancy shown in half-hour intervals



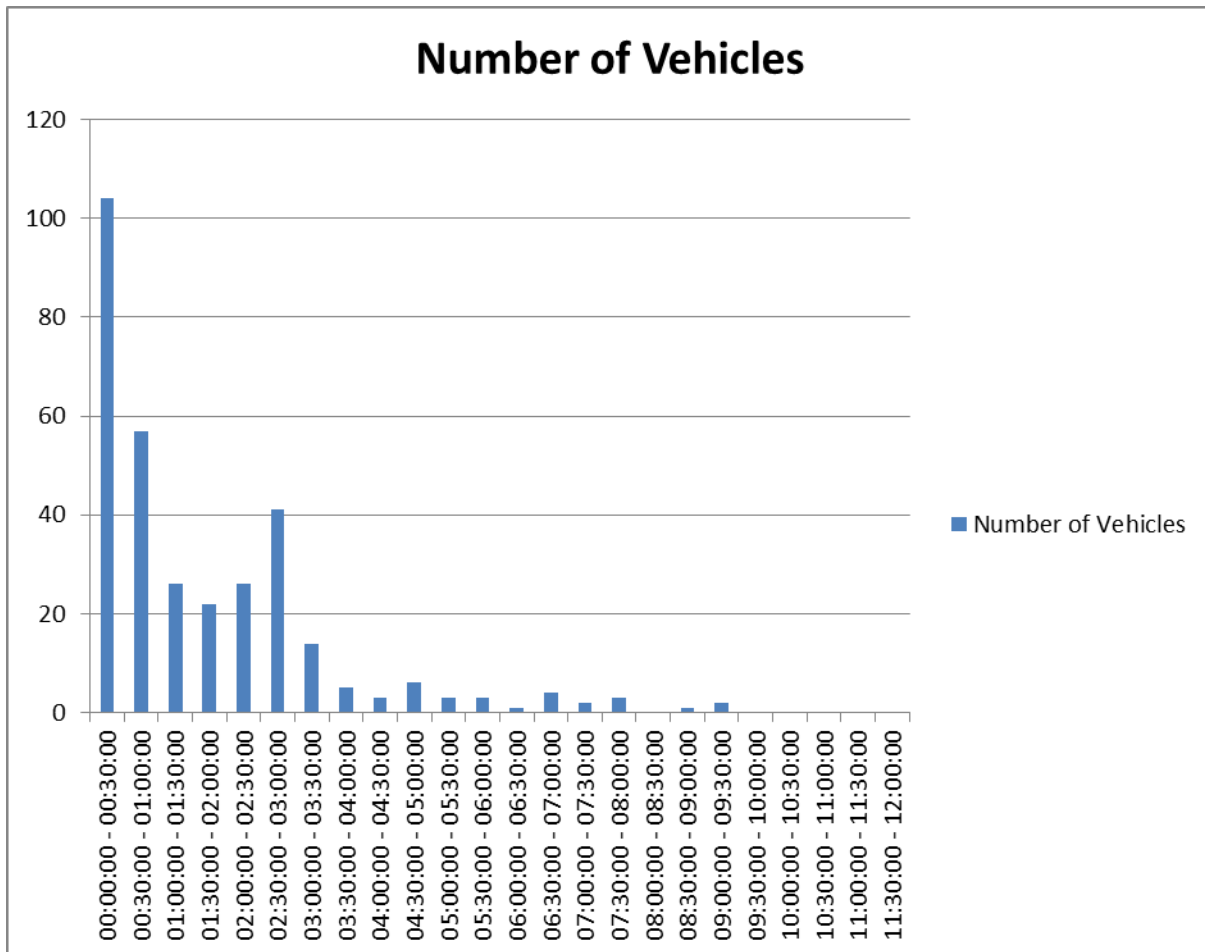
Appendix D – Duration of Stay for Barry’s Meadow Car Park

Tuesday 13 May 2014 – durations shown in half-hour intervals

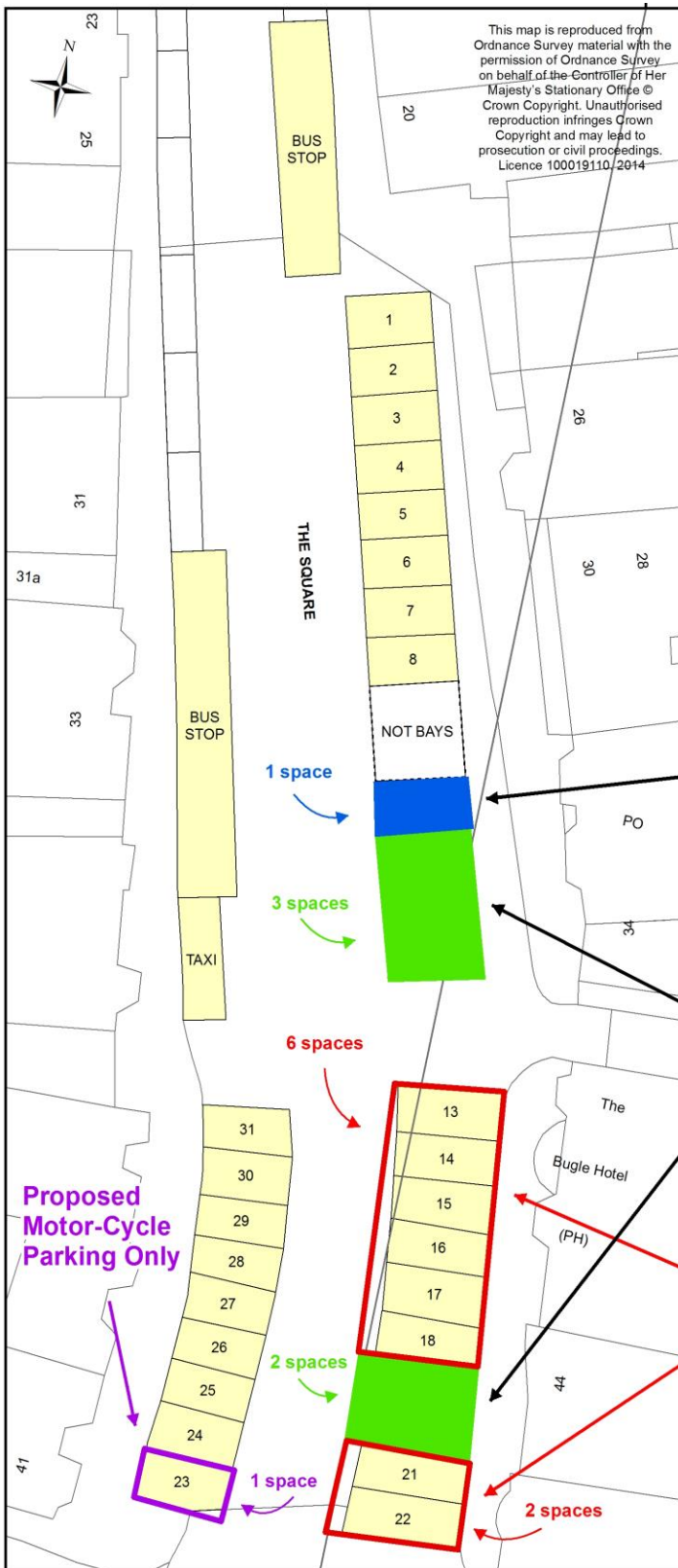


Appendix E – Duration of Stay in Titchfield Community Centre Car Park

Tuesday 13 May 2014 – durations shown in half-hour intervals



Appendix F – Proposed Changes to The Square



8 spaces additionally restricted to 30-minute parking (no return within one hour) between 8am and 6pm

All spaces unrestricted except:

Existing Disabled Bay

Existing 30-minute Restricted Bays

Proposed NEW 30-minute Restricted Bays

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 05 January 2015

Portfolio:	Policy and Resources
Subject:	Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax
Report of:	Director of Finance and Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Finance Strategy 2015/16
Corporate Objective:	A dynamic, prudent and progressive Council

Purpose:

This report reviews the Council's finance strategy and makes recommendations regarding the capital programme, the revised revenue budget for 2014/15 and the revenue budget for 2015/6.

Executive summary:

On 1 December 2014, the Executive considered the Council's capital programme, revised service budget for 2014/15 and proposed service budgets for 2015/16.

Capital Programme and Resources 2014/15 to 2018/19

The capital programme amounts to £33,176,000, and there are capital resources totalling £34,774,000 over the programme period. Whilst a surplus of capital resources exists, there are likely to be emerging spending requirements that require new resources to be accumulated now so that the Council can meet its future commitments.

Revised General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15

The revised general fund revenue budget for 2014/15 amounts to £12,958,700 for service budgets with other budgets totalling £-3,442,600 giving an overall position of £9,516,100.

General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/16

The proposed general fund budget for 2015/16 totals £11,773,100 for service budgets along with £-2,652,900 for other budgets giving an overall position of £9,120,200 which is a reduction of £395,900 against the original budget for 2014/15.

Recommendation:

That the Executive agrees:

- (a) that the capital programme for the period 2014/15 - 2018/19, amounting to £33,176,000 be approved;
- (b) that the revised 2014/15 general fund budget, amounting to £9,516,100 be approved;
- (c) that the base 2015/16 general fund revenue budget amounting to £9,120,200 be approved; and
- (d) that the use of the surplus on the spending reserve as set out in paragraphs 30-32 be approved.

Reason:

To allow the Council to approve the capital programme, general fund revised revenue budget for 2014/15 and draft revenue budget for 2015/16.

Cost of proposals:

The costs are set out in the overall revenue budget and capital programme detailed in the attached briefing paper.

Appendices A: Consolidated General Fund Budget 2014/15 (revised) and 2015/16 (Base)

Background papers: None

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 05 January 2015

Subject: Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax

Briefing by: Director of Finance and Resources

Portfolio: Policy and Resources

INTRODUCTION

1. This report brings together the revenue and capital spending plans for the Council's local service agreements, as part of the Council's co-ordinated strategic, service and financial planning process.
2. The finance strategy was considered in October 2014, in advance of the budget process. The Finance Strategy reviewed the Council's overall financial position, taking into account:
 - the actual position in the previous financial year;
 - issues that have arisen in the current year;
 - the future level of government support;
 - current and future financial pressures; and
 - timing of the Council's major capital schemes.
3. It is against this background that the budget setting principles for the forthcoming financial year were agreed.
4. This report provides a further update to the Council's overall financial position in the light of the updated capital programme and the approved service budgets and allows the ability to accommodate new revenue and capital spending plans to be considered.

FINANCE STRATEGY AND BUDGET SETTING PRINCIPLES FOR 2015/16

5. On 6 October 2014 the Executive considered a report on the Council's finance strategy that highlighted the various issues that will impact on the revenue budget and council tax for 2015/16 and later years.

6. A major corporate priority for the Council is to maintain council tax increases at or below the rate of inflation. Currently RPIX inflation is 2.0% (Nov 14) and headline RPI was 2.0%.
7. The Government has indicated in previous financial years that it expects councils to freeze council tax. It is likely that this will continue through to the 2015/16 Council Tax Setting and councils that achieve it will be rewarded with additional grant equal to a council tax increase of 1%. The budget has been prepared in a way that will deliver another council tax freeze such that by the end of 2015/16 the council tax will have remained frozen for seven years.
8. Gross expenditure on services in 2014/15 is £45.4 million but a minimal increase of only £60,000 (0.13%) is sufficient to increase the council tax by 1%.

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

9. The general fund capital programme was considered by the Executive on 1 December 2014. The programme amounted to £33,176,000 for the period 2014/15 - 2018/19.
10. Resources available to fund the capital programme amount to £34,774,000 over the programme period, and therefore by 2017/18 there should be a surplus of £1,598,000.
11. However, while the condition of the Council's assets is generally good, there is a growing need to make a significant investment over the coming years in order to maintain the assets and meet future service needs. The capital programme reflects the corporate priority in providing a new leisure facility in the western wards as well as the ongoing works at Daedalus. Despite the current surplus of capital resources (compared to the approved programme), the asset reviews suggest that there are insufficient resources in the future.
12. Consequently, there is a need to continue accumulating additional resources to meet the future capital demands. The Executive has previously agreed to set aside £500,000 from the revenue budget each year for this purpose and also has a policy to use New Homes Bonus money for capital and project funding once any funding shortfall or requirement to fund expenditure relating to the Welborne Project has been met. Capital resources will also be supplemented with any non-specific windfall income received during the year.

THE REVENUE BUDGET

The Base Revenue Budget 2014/15

13. The net revenue budget for 2014/15 was £9,516,100, a reduction of £307,200 on the previous year, and as a result the council tax was frozen, which was below the annual rate of inflation for the tenth consecutive year.

The Revised Service Budget 2014/15

14. The Executive and the Committees considered the revised service budgets for 2014/16 in November and December 2014. The overall service budget is £68,700 lower than the base budget for the year.

15. Other budgets, such as investment income, contributions to capital, etc. have increased by an equivalent amount, and the revised budget remains as £9,516,100. Further information of how this is spread across portfolios is in Appendix A.

THE SERVICE BUDGET 2015/16

Cost of Services

16. The Executive considered the draft 2015/16 revenue budget for each committee and portfolio on 1 December 2014.
17. Since that meeting Full Council has approved a report from the Chief Executive Officer on the Pay and Grading Review. The report detailed a 4% pay increase for all mainstream staff and a revised pay structure for senior managers.
18. The budget implications of that decision have been built into the service budgets for 2015/16 along with the savings anticipated through the implementation of the Vanguard Method.

Other Budgets

19. In addition to the expenditure and income required to provide Council services, there are other costs and income which need to be taken into account when establishing the overall budget requirement. These include capital financing costs, interest earned on the Council's investments, accounting adjustments, etc.
20. Capital Financing Costs: The proposed budget provides for a revenue contribution to capital of £2.2m, which includes a contribution of £500,000 towards future capital commitments. This also includes a proportion of the New Homes Bonus award in the year (£897,900).
21. Interest on Balances: The Council has taken numerous steps to protect its investment portfolio, by spreading risks, using highly rated commercial institutions or Government bodies and investing for short periods. Consequently, however, the rates of return are limited.
22. The reduction in the figures for the base budget for 2015/16 reflects the continuing lower interest rates but also takes into account the fact that balances available for investment will fall as spending on major capital project continues throughout 2015/16.
23. Portchester Crematorium Contribution: This crematorium is one of the Council's earliest partnerships with three other Councils. Each year the crematorium contributes a share of any surplus to each Council and the Joint Committee has agreed that in 2015/16 the contribution will be £125,000, which is £25,000 less than the original budget for the current year and reflects a reducing number of cremations in the year.
24. Contribution from Reserves: This represents one-off items in the budget that are funded from reserve accounts that the Council holds.
25. The following table summarises the overall variations in the Council's net budget, with further information of how this is spread across portfolios in Appendix A:

	Base 2014/15 £000s	Base 2015/16 £000s	Variations £000s
Gross Service Expenditure	43,275	42,922	-353
Gross Service Income	-30,248	-31,149	-901
Net Service Expenditure	13,027	11,773	-1,254
Other budgets	-3,511	-2,653	+858
Total Budget	9,516	9,120	-396

26. Taking account of all revenue budget items, the overall budget for 2015/16 will be £9,120,200, which represents an overall decrease of £395,900 or 4.2%. Taking account of the anticipated change in the formula grant and the council tax base for 2015/16, this budget will allow the council tax to be set at the same level as in 2014/15.

SPENDING PRESSURES AND SERVICE EFFICIENCIES

27. The Finance Strategy explained that there are a number of very significant spending pressures facing the Council over the coming years. These pressures represent increasing costs that cannot be avoided, reducing income from services and investments, and additional funding that is required in order to progress high corporate priority actions.
28. At the meeting of the Executive on 7 October 2013 the Executive Leader advised that he has asked the Chief Executive Officer to prepare and bring forward a range of options for the budget gap to be closed by using the four elements of the Council's Efficiency plan (Priorities, Proceeds, People/Process and Procurement) as a basis, with a view to finding £800,000 of savings by 2015.
29. The Executive were updated with reports in March and July 2014 giving details of how the £800,000 target would be achieved. These saving have been recognised in the budget for 2015/16.

SPENDING RESERVE

30. The Spending Reserve provides for unforeseen fluctuations in revenue expenditure and income such that one-off variations can be funded without having an adverse impact on the council tax. In accordance with the Finance Strategy, the minimum balance for the reserve is 5% of the planned gross expenditure. Taking account of the proposed expenditure in 2014-15, this equates to £2,273,700 and the current balance in the reserve is £2,847,200, a surplus over the minimum balance of £573,500.
31. As part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy it was agreed that proposals for the use of the surplus would be developed during the autumn for consideration in this report.
32. Paragraphs 9-12 review the capital programme and resources needed in order to meet this programme. It is recommended that the spending reserve surplus of £573,500 is transferred to support the capital programme.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT IN 2015/16

33. Currently, local councils receive their funding from 3 main sources: grants from central government; council tax; and other locally generated income such as fees and charges for services.
34. From April 2013, business rates have been retained locally by the billing authority, and the Council pay a proportion of the money collected to Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority and the Government.
35. The Government has also announced that there will be a one-off freeze grant available in 2015/16 for councils that keep their council tax either at or below the 2014/15 level. This grant equivalent to a 1% increase in council tax levels will enable council tax to remain low but it does mean that in order to keep spend at the same level there will be a need to reduce costs further due to 'lost' council tax income in future years.

NEW HOMES BONUS

36. On 6 October 2014 in approving the Finance Strategy, the Executive approved the following policy on the treatment of the New Homes Bonus income:
 - *“Firstly, if necessary, the award is top-sliced to meet reduced central government funding, and to support service delivery (particularly where demand has grown in line with the growth in housing);*
 - *The balance is earmarked for investment in capital schemes or other projects, which are driven by corporate priorities;*
 - *In determining the use of funds for capital investment, there should be a bias towards*
 - *investing in land & property that will generate a long term source of income;*
 - *Projects that support economic or employment growth; and*
 - *Projects that support or secure further housing delivery.*
37. *If assumptions for the reduction in Government funding are correct, then a top slice of any NHB award will continue to increase, to support continued service delivery. This will reduce the amount currently used to support capital projects.”*
38. In line with the policy, of the £1,421,800 received in 2014/15, £523,900 will be used to offset reductions in Government funding with the balance of £897,900 to be used for capital investment.
39. The provisional reward for 2015/16 is £1,648,000 and it is proposed that £750,100 is used to offset reductions in Government funding with the balance of £897,900 used for capital investment.

RISK ASSESSMENT

40. In considering the budget, there are a number of issues that need to be borne in mind, as set out below:-

41. The economic climate remains uncertain, and has had a significant impact on certain services and budgets.
42. The Government continues to expect the public sector to achieve significant efficiencies, in 2015/16 and in future years due to changes in funding. The table below shows the funding changes for Fareham since 2009/10 when council tax was first set at the current level.

Financial Year	Government Grant (RSG & NNDR)	£ Change	% Change
2009/10	£6,204,530		
2010/11	£6,235,553	£31,023	+0.5%
2011/12	£4,610,248	-£1,625,305	-26.1%
2012/13	£4,000,459	-£609,789	-13.2%
2013/14	£4,090,980	+£90,521	+2.3%
2014/15	£3,709,301	-£381,679	-9.3%

43. Between October 2009 and October 2014 RPIX has increased by 19.6%.
44. The Executive has previously agreed that the balance on the spending reserve should equate to at least 5% of gross revenue expenditure which, for 2014/15, is £2,273,700. A detailed assessment of need has been carried out, following guidance from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (LAAP77), which indicates that this is an appropriate level to retain but should not be reduced, especially at this time of significant uncertainty.
45. While the Council's capital resources are expected to exceed planned capital expenditure at the end of the programme period (by approximately £1.6 million), future spending requirements could give rise to a very significant shortfall. It is therefore imperative that capital reserves are replenished whenever possible in order to meet the future spending needs.

THE COUNCIL TAX FOR 2015/16

46. If the proposed base budget is approved, the overall revenue budget for 2015/16 will be £9,120,200.
47. With government support and other income of £3,282,813 the total amount to be raised from council taxpayers would be £5,837,387.
48. With the council tax base – the equivalent number of Band D properties – for 2015/16 being 41,630.2, this would give a council tax per Band D property for 2015/16 of £140.22, which is the same level of council that has been charged since 1 April 2009. This council tax freeze compares favourably to the current level of inflation of 2.4% (RPIX, October 2014).

ASSURANCE STATEMENT BY THE STATUTORY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

49. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 states that when the Council sets a budget for the forthcoming financial year, the statutory Chief Financial Officer (CFO) must report to the authority on the robustness of the budgets and the adequacy of the financial reserves.

50. The CFO is able to confirm that the Council's co-ordinated finance strategy allows the availability of resources to finance both capital and revenue expenditure to be considered at the same time. It provides the necessary flexibility to allow resources to be allocated to both capital and revenue and this has enabled the delivery of balanced budgets for both capital and revenue.
51. The CFO can also confirm the robustness of the approved budgets and therefore major variations in expenditure and income are not anticipated. However, a risk assessment has been carried out to highlight the impact of possible variations in the level of expenditure and income and by maintaining the spending reserve at 5% of gross expenditure resources are in place to meet any likely variations that could not be met from within the Council's overall budget.

CONCLUSION

52. The Council's finances remain under pressure in the current year, and there is every indication that this situation will persist in the future not only from Central Government funding constraints but also from other economic pressures.
53. Consequently, the budget setting process for 2015/16 has presented the same challenges that were experienced during the 2014/15 budget, but with careful forward planning and appropriate mitigating action being taken at the earliest opportunity, the proposed budget has been produced which is believed to be robust and sustainable.
54. Taking new priority spending into account, the proposed revenue budget for 2015/16 will provide sufficient resources to deliver the Council's services and its priorities, and enable the council tax to be frozen for 2015/16, at current levels.

Reference Papers:

Report of the Director of Finance & Resources to the Executive on 6 October 2014 'Annual Review of the Council's Finance Strategy'

Report of the Chief Executive Officer to the Executive on 3 March 2014 'Efficiency Savings'

Report of the Director of Finance & Resources to the Executive on 7 July 2014 'Efficiency Savings'

Report of the Chief Executive Officer to Full Council on 11 December 2014 'Pay and Grading Review'

CONSOLIDATED GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2014/15 (revised) and 2015/16 (Base)

	Budget 2014/15 £	Revised 2014/15 £	Variation Base to Rev £	Budget 2015/16 £	Variation Base to base £
Committees					
Planning Committee	793,400	801,800	8,400	753,000	-40,400
Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee	503,400	497,200	-6,200	490,200	-13,200
Executive - Portfolio Budgets					
- Leisure and Community	2,278,700	2,257,100	-21,600	2,112,600	-166,100
- Health and Housing	1,210,300	1,322,100	111,800	1,215,000	4,700
- Planning and Development	-537,600	-610,300	-72,700	-1,001,900	-464,300
- Policy and Resources	1,950,100	1,755,600	-194,500	1,463,400	-486,700
- Public Protection	2,455,400	2,417,400	-38,000	2,293,800	-161,600
- Streetscene	4,373,700	4,517,800	144,100	4,447,000	73,300
SERVICE BUDGETS	13,027,400	12,958,700	-68,700	11,773,100	-1,254,300
Capital Charges	-2,152,200	-1,983,000	169,200	-1,983,000	169,200
Capital Financing Costs					
- Use of Housing Capital Receipts	-230,000	-334,000	-104,000	-230,000	0
- Direct Revenue Funding	1,301,000	1,301,000	0	1,301,000	0
- Direct Revenue Funding NHB	897,900	897,900	0	897,900	0
Interest on Balances	-676,900	-706,900	-30,000	-599,900	77,000
Portchester Crematorium	-150,000	-150,000	0	-125,000	25,000
New Homes Bonus	-1,416,000	-1,421,800	-5,800	-1,648,000	-232,000
Contribution to(+)/from(-) Reserves	-1,085,100	-1,045,800	39,300	-265,900	819,200
OTHER BUDGETS	-3,511,300	-3,442,600	68,700	-2,652,900	858,400
NET BUDGET	9,516,100	9,516,100	0	9,120,200	-395,900

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 05 January 2015

Portfolio:	Policy and Resources
Subject:	Community Fund Application - Adrian Stannard
Report of:	Director of Finance and Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Community Engagement Strategy
Corporate Objective:	Strong and Inclusive Communities

Purpose:

This report presents an application for funding under the Council's Community Fund Programme.

Executive summary:

Mr Adrian Stannard, a resident of Winnham Drive, Portchester, has applied for the sum of £9,250 from the Council's Community Fund programme to pay for the resurfacing of a footpath leading from Winnham Drive to Portchester Road (between nos. 92 & 96).

The funds would be used to pay for works to improve the surface of the existing footpath. Officers from Building Services have surveyed the footpath and recommended the laying of new edgings and a fresh tarmac pathway. The works would be carried out by Fareham Borough Council contractors.

The footpath is regularly used by the public but believed to be in private ownership. Despite lengthy attempts to identify the current owners, Officers have been unable to do so. Following advice from the Southampton & Fareham Legal Partnership an advertisement was placed in The News newspaper on 3rd September 2014. Whilst a couple of responses were received they did not confirm the ownership status of the footpath.

In the interests of members of the public who use this footpath on a regular, often daily, basis and have done for a number of years, it is proposed to use these public funds to upgrade the path to a good standard.

Ward Councillors Bell & Walker have been consulted on the bid and have responded in full support of the application.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

That the Executive approves the application for funding submitted by Mr Adrian Stannard for £9,250.00 and agrees that it is taken from Fareham Borough Council's Community Funding Programme.

Reason:

This application meets the agreed Community Funding Programme criteria for financial support for community capital projects.

Cost of proposals:

The total cost of this project will be £9,250.00 and can be met from within the existing budget for the Community Fund Programme.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

