

Appendix 17 – Tidworth Workshop

CORE STRATEGY ISSUES RAISING CONSULTATION

Tidworth Community Area Workshop

**Community Centre, Tidworth
6.30pm, 2nd April 2007**

This is a verbatim report of the meeting. There is no attempt to analyse comments made. Throughout the report notes recorded during the meeting are presented in normal type. Additional comments are presented in *italics*.

NB Following the meeting this report was circulated by e-mail to all those who attended the meeting and who requested a copy of the report. Participants were asked if this was an accurate record. Unfortunately one or two e-mail addresses were returned unknown and there was no other means of making contact. No-one queried the content of the report

The following people attended:

Chris Gillian	Ludgershall Parish Council
Richard Aubery Fletcher	Tidworth LSP
Mike Winterbourne	Tidworth LSP
Cllr Andrew Connolly	Kennet District Councillor
Steve Dagger	Tidworth Town Council
Humph Jones	Tidworth Town Council
P Hewitt	Tidworth Town Council
Cllr S Miles	Kennet District Councillor & Tidworth TC
Janet White	Tidworth Town Council
Margaret Buffrey	Tidworth Town Council
Rick Young	Castledown Radio
Mark Connolly	Wiltshire County Councillor
David Wildman	Tidworth & District Chamber of Commerce
Richard Amery	Tidworth & Bulford Garrison
Mike Goss	Great Bedwyn PC
Jenny Clack	Great Bedwyn PC
David Sherlock	Resident
A H Still	Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council
Mary Cullen	Community Development Worker, WCC
R Pepper	Holy Trinity Church
T Edwards	Holy Trinity Church
Claire Rooney	Wiltshire Police
Steve Lawton	Tidworth Development Trust
Rev Malcolm Freeman	Ludgershall & Tidworth Parish
Reya Jones	Resident

Facilitators

Val Powley	Community Partnership Officer Kennet District Council
Ed White	Head of Forward Planning & Transportation Kennet District Council
Carolyn Gibson	Principal Planning Officer (Forward Planning) Kennet District Council
Louisa Down	Planning Officer (Forward Planning) Kennet District Council
Steve May	Housing Development Officer Kennet District Council

1. Arrival

On arrival people were asked to register their attendance and indicate if they would like to be kept informed of future planning consultations. Participants were advised that there would be two discussion sessions and asked to consider which two topics out of housing, economy, environment and community they would like to take part in (see Annex A). Tables were labelled by topic so that people could choose to take a seat at the table that would discuss their first choice topic.

2. Introduction

Ed White welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the key issues facing the Tidworth Community Area and over the next 20 years. Issues raised at this stage would be used to inform the content of the core strategy within Kennet's Local Development Framework. The next stage is to prepare a series of policy options for consideration.

3. Discussion Session One : Issues Consultation

- **What are the key issues facing the Tidworth Community Area?**

There were four table groups, each discussing a different topic. Notes of the discussions were recorded on flip chart sheets. These notes are reproduced below.

Environment

Limit urbanisation- keep green space, Keep Great Bedwyn, Ensuring access to open space and ensuring people know it is there, Welfare Bourne Valley- protect biodiversity, Houses- too many and issue due to floodplain, Ludgershall- maintain natural beauty, conservation area.

Good mix needed housing. Balance

Noise in Tidworth issue- some work has been done especially in the viallges. Noise especially an issue at night

Balance

Road re-surfacing an issue

Main route already busy issues with capacity. Need ensure this is considered

Improve recycling- Need to improve recycling by supermarkets

Direct approach to Defence estates need early

Building in conservation area sympathetic

Bourne Valley- Everleigh crossroads- Conservation project for it a moment. Bourne Valley project could benefit developer money

Flooding and avoiding flood plain issue. Springs can cause flood issues, even if river not flooded.

Sustainable building is needed. Help avoid flood risk.

Built environment tired and needs refreshing. Internal dynamics of area need looking at e.g. Station Road and Tidworth Leisure Centre need linking- better access

Careful to preserve historic value- includes Station Road. Not hide Church. Modern buildings can date quickly.

New development and waste need linking. Distance of waste facilities. Too much packaging. Fly tipping an issue

Ensure recyclable areas are built in at planning stage- including room for wheelie bins.

Water abstraction an issue. Water feeds entire environment. Water recycling important. More reservoirs. Education children important

Speed issues in Great Bedwyn. Reduce limit.

* underlining denotes a key issue

Community

Policing – roll out of NPT – acceptance of NPT

Fly tipping
Antisocial behaviour
Youth facilities
Accessibility to services
Accessibility to retail offer

Transport – especially in rural hinterland
Schooling – lack of 6th form at present

Preponderance of social and rented housing
Dumping ground for people not wanted elsewhere (Tidworth/Ludgershall)

Transitory population

Lack of community cohesion

Lack of medical/dental facilities
- particular problem with dentist – NHS dentistry full
- more people moving in – social housing population cannot afford private dentist

Lack of response to link scheme in Tidworth

Communications
- need to keep people informed
- working on it!
- planning leaflets for this evening not user friendly ('housing trajectory')
- lack of notification for tonight – should be in Andover Advertiser and Salisbury Journal nearer the date
- people turning up in Tidworth from Marlborough CA
- documents didn't give location for the event

Fear of crime in 50+ group

Car radios too loud in streets

Migrant workers – people area aware of them and looking for problems – need to educate.

Recycling plastic and cardboard – 1 skip a month is not enough – timing wrong at 10.00 – it is too late in the day – it will just be left on the ground

Mini motos – problems on Salisbury Plain and Collingbourne Woods

Emergency services
- Ambulance response times are long from Amesbury/Andover
- Fire – quite good – retained fire station in Ludgershall and Pewsey
- no military fire service – civilian fire engines attend

2 separate telephone codes, 3 post codes – SP9 = Tidworth, SP11 = Ludgershall SN8 = Collingbournes. Confusing for communication and emergency services.

3 newspapers
- Andover Advertiser = Tidworth & Ludgershall
- Marlborough Gazette & Herald = Collingbournes
- Salisbury Journal = Tidworth

* underlining denotes a key issue

Economy

Better retail – Kennet no economic development service – new food retailer needed (Iceland)

Village mentality for shopping in Tidworth – needs to change

Village shops threatened by Tesco?
If we get it right all can win! Ludgershall & other villages for top up shopping

Castledown Business Park will help support local facilities

Fluctuation in population affects viability – lack of sustainability

Community support – how do villagers access facilities?

Role: Villages different to Tidworth

Small shops - flexible
Community role
Customer loyalty

Ludgershall and Tidworth now seen as interdependent/complimentary

Communities beyond the Collingbournes may not see CA as a whole

Economy won't grow until balance military and civilian housing

Work with local landowners and developers to stimulate the economy

A lot of out commuting for work
Castledown – local employment or people travelling?

* underlining denotes a key issue

Housing

Military/civilian tenure balance

'Them and us' feeling with military

Transient nature of military – need greater civilian population in relation to military

Release of 500 houses on NE Quadrant important

Instability within population due to military – need to raise civilian population

Need to promote area commercially, tourism etc

Limit proportion of social housing against private housing – encourage home ownership/low cost housing rather than rented

Need more social housing (rented)

Affordable housing threshold should be raised to encourage private development

Raise affordable housing threshold to 25+

Risk that housing sites will remain undeveloped if affordable threshold remains at 15

Don't build to high densities

We need the MOD to release more land

4. Discussion Session Two : Issues Consultation

- **What are the key issues facing the Tidworth Community Area?**

Participants moved to a different table of their choice. Again there were four table groups, each discussing a different topic. Notes of the discussion were recorded on flip chart sheets. These notes are reproduced below.

Environment

Commuting/Migration- work, shopping – need to cut down, Litter-vandalism-lack bins, Fly-tipping x2, recycling, preserving environment, Education- key way to improve environment, Bourne Valley link (link development) Waste

Land Ludgershall – Shared- Lack communication- bring people together. Tidworth common owner map

Waste- need a nearer facility (not Ludgershall business park) Queuing an issue. Cardboard and plastic recycling needed. Need skips more and longer. Education key. Communication again key. Need more flexibility.

Transport- cycle routes need them and lighting key. Public transport needs to be affordable.

Devolving issues in Wootton Bassett has worked (e.g. grass cutting and litter)

Green engines e.t.c

Housing employment, infrastructure all need interconnection, to stop commuting. Infrastructure can be key.

Re-use railway

* underlining denotes a key issue

Community

Youth – provide more facilities to keep anti social behaviour lower

Lack of policing – have to wait ages for them to come – Is the police station going to close? Difficult to contact the police when needed – won't come out or takes a long time from Amesbury

Bluz N 2us good for youngsters – only once a month but good

Fear of approaching groups of young people – intimidating
Anti-social behaviour/vandalism

Speeding
On street parking in housing areas causes problems

Ambulance service
- arrival times outside government targets
- Ludgershall fire station have a defibrillator – can respond quickly

Long waiting times to see doctors (14 days)
Can't get a NHS dentist

Litter problems – general

Plastic recycling – skip expected this week 1=12.30 (or until full)

Everleigh tip useful

Development of North East Quadrant – can schools and facilities cope with influx of kids?

Communication – difficulty in delivering newspapers

More shops – more variety – shoes, clothes, Smiths (just cafes now)
Lucky still have a bank

Free milk – have to go to Tesco Andover – new Tidworth Tesco will improve things

Parking very difficult – especially for disabled at post office.

Economy

Business park a priority to bring job – KDC no economic person

Balance needed between military use of land – release sites for housing

Lack of businesses and housing to attract high wage earners

Educational aspirations need raising – then need to make sure somewhere to realise goals locally –not forced to leave

Major company needs to invest in Castledown to begin development

Dealing with the military a problem – need consistency – WCC civil/military partnership a start

Stable retail economy needs more housing

Infrastructure capacity for growth?

Tesco effect?

- Smaller shops don't compete but may affect Sommerfield in Ludgershall
- beneficial effect through increased footfall

Retail roles - Tidworth primary shopping
- Ludgershall specialist shopping
- Villages convenience shopping

People needed – projects already started – bring jobs/shops

Injection of land and money needed

MSA v Castledown – different?

Tidworth and Ludgershall support each other – some remaining areas of concern

Industries for the long term

Don't wasn't empty shops and businesses 'blighting' the area (NAAFI/Spar)

* underlining denotes a key issue

Housing

Too much development in villages

More private housing required. Need to address the imbalances within the community

Affordable housing should concentrate on ownership (Tidworth)

House prices high – need more shared ownership opportunities

Concern over building on flood plain

Need to concentrate development to the south of Tidworth

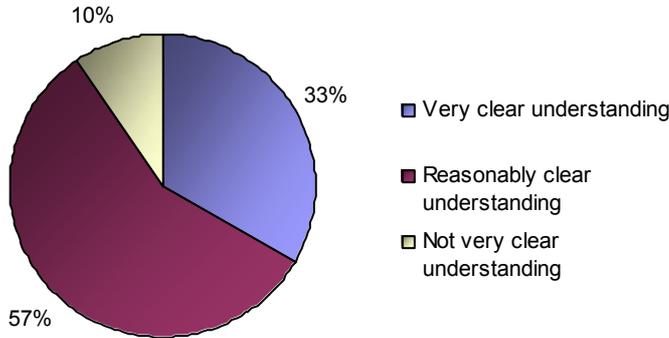
Preserve character of existing Tidworth village
Design code for Tidworth (not too prescriptive)
Concentrate on shared ownership (re affordable)
Include 'higher end' open market housing
Consider security/reducing crime in design and layout of new housing (not just affordable housing)
Holiday homes in villages not contributing to communities and local economy
RSS should listen to the requirement for housing being voiced by the community
Encourage greater swelling type mix
Need to consider infrastructure in relation to housing provision.

At the end of the meeting there was a brief summing up session. Facilitators for each topic group reported back to the whole meeting the key issues arising, focusing first on the similarities between discussion session 1 and 2 and then the main differences between the two discussion groups.

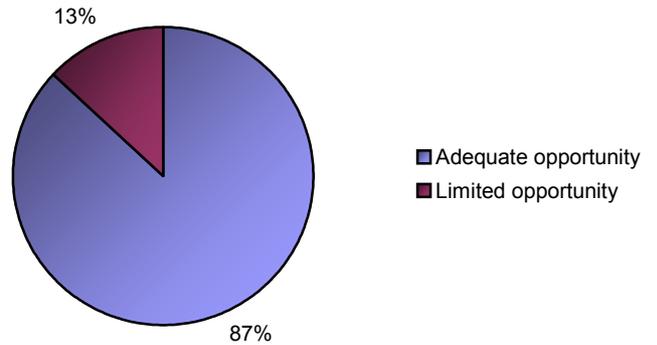
5. Exit Questionnaire

At the end of the meeting participants were asked to complete a short questionnaire about the meeting. These are the comments received.

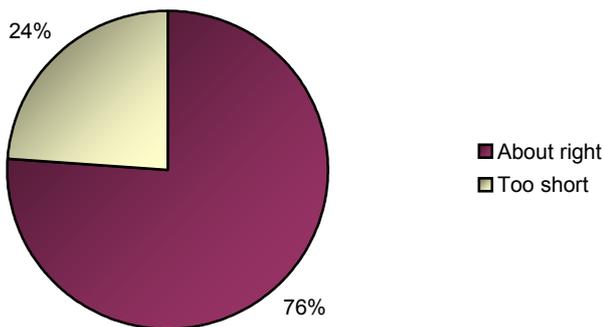
Did the issues papers circulated before the meeting provide you with a clear understanding of the issues?



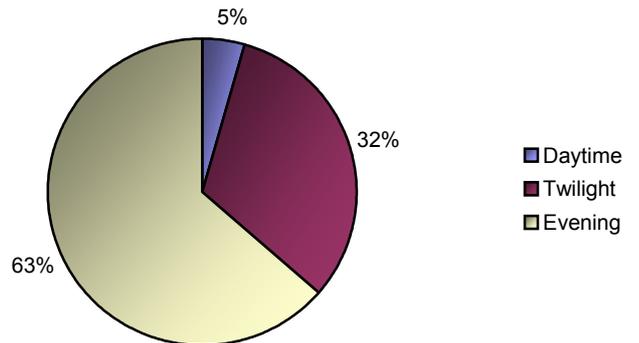
At the meeting did you feel you had adequate opportunities to make your views known?



Do you consider that this event was?



Which of these do you consider to be the most appropriate time for public meetings to be held?



How could we improve future events to allow participants to express their views?

Interactive events like these are important, we should find a way of showing peoples views are important.	Could we have more of these type of meetings?
Better advertising of the event.	Longer sessions needed to develop ideas.
More of these 'focus' type meetings these are excellent, broader selection of the public is needed.	Allow people more time to read information and explain meeting when they arrive. Would have been nice to visit all four tables.
Longer time for syndicate discussion.	More people, proper advertising of the event.
Balance was about right.	Gt Bedwyn had too little notice to take part in the Marlborough meeting; clashed with PC meeting I don't know if any residents attended this meeting in Marlborough?
More time, although most people in the groups were able to give there opinions.	Thought it was well organised and people given opportunity to give their views.
Better advertising in the press.	Would have been nice to visit all four tables.
Pitched about right. Facilitators were very good indeed.	

Annex A – Agenda

CORE STRATEGY ISSUES RAISING CONSULTATION
Tidworth Community Centre
2nd April 2007

AGENDA

1. Introduction 6.30
2. Discussion Group One 6.35
3. Discussion Group Two 7.00
 - In relation to (topic) what is the biggest issue facing the Community Area
4. Feedback Session 7.20

There will be four topic groups for each Discussion Group:

Housing
Environment
Economy
Community

Please can you choose two topics to discuss from the above list. Once you have decided please go and sit at the table relevant to the topic you wish to discuss in Discussion Group One

We will try to keep to a 7.30 close but this will depend on how lively the debate is

Each discussion group will have a facilitator. These are:

Ed White	Forward Planning and Transportation
Carolyn Gibson	Forward Planning and Transportation
Louisa Down	Forward Planning and Transportation
Val Powley	Community Planning
Steve May	Housing Services

Please note a report of the meeting will be forwarded to everyone who registers their attendance