



CNP Public Consultation No.5

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Contents
<u>1. Objectives and Approach</u>
<u>2. Summary of Opinions</u>
2.1 Introduction
2.2 Opinions, grouped by Themes
2.2.1 Housing Needs
2.2.2 Community Facilities
2.2.3 Business and Employment Opportunities and Needs
2.2.4 Transport and Connectedness
2.2.5 Environment and Land Management
2.2.6 Energy / Utilities
2.3 General Opinions
2.3.1 Strengths
2.3.2 Weaknesses
2.4 A Vision for the Future
2.5 The Airfield
<u>3. Future Public Consultations</u>
<u>4. Definitions and Clarifications</u>
<u>5. Statistics</u>

1. Objectives and Approach

Event	Public Consultation Workshop
Objectives	To obtain ideas and opinions relating to development within the Parish of Colerne
Time / Date	19:30 – 21:00 on Wednesday 21 June 2017
Location	Colerne Liberal Club
Facilitators	Introduction Jane Mellett Facilitators: Samantha Jones and Bob Jones plus 5 members of the Colerne NP Steering Group
Approach	Jane Mellett, the chair of the Steering Group gave a short introduction explaining the reasons why a Neighbourhood Plan is being developed, how it will be used in the Planning process by Wiltshire Council, and the need for this Plan to be solely driven by the views of the residents of the Parish. The remainder of the meeting was an open discussion in which attendees were encouraged to offer their opinions on the six themes relating to the built environment namely: Housing Needs, Community Facilities, Business & Employment, Transport & Connectedness, Environment Management, and Energy & Utilities. Views were noted for subsequent recording in this document.
Attendees	13 residents of the Parish (from Colerne village and Thickwood)

2. Summary of Opinions

2.1 Introduction

This report summarises the perceptions, ideas and opinions of those attending the consultation and, as such, are not verified facts and figures.

The opinions shared, suggestions made and questions raised have been broadly categorised under the six themes in Section 2.2. Many of the comments, however, span several themes. More general comments and ideas that do not fit neatly under any of these themes are outlined in Section 2.3.

2.2 Opinions, grouped by Themes

2.2.1 Housing Needs

- Young people need affordable housing – young families and singles
- Older people need affordable housing that is suited to their needs
- Need social housing – housing association
- Affordable is not only buying but also renting
- Any affordable housing built for sale or letting should be offered to local residents first, and then sequentially via specified priority (such as connection to parish, work in parish etc) ('Parish Cascade')
- It is hard for people to move up the housing ladder in the parish

- Old listed properties in the parish are difficult to adapt to changes in residents' mobility levels
- Some people need houses to be close to relatives (child minding / caring)
- Very difficult to see how the built environment can expand with current inadequate road system
- Concrete area in North Colerne – a possibility for development?
- Density of any new housing developments, and design criteria need to be specified
- New homes would need parking for at least 2 cars
- New builds should be sustainable – no infrastructure needs be installed if these are designed properly
- Need a more coordinated approach to the design of street furniture (currently a mix of styles and colours)
- Design of places and landscapes to be considered
- Garden village idea – communal areas (but not twee)

2.2.2 Community Facilities

- Recreation field very good
- Need post office facilities Mon-Sat (nor on the camp – of particular need there for international mail); becoming more important with the increase in online shopping
- Unclear what the current position is regarding a PO for Colerne
- Would need more GP services for a larger population
- Not many activities for Teenagers to keep them occupied (low level drug abuse by young people is in causing concern across the country) – Youth Service have been cut
 - Choices' set up specifically for the 13-19 age group, doing well, has a Facebook page. Some parents don't know about this
- More sporting facilities for older children (11-16) needed; and also for the older residents
- A swimming pool would be great
- Play area for children with disabilities / special needs is being looked into
- Could set up a community shop, and another café (not to compete with Colerne Café) – Liberal Club has previously been approached regarding this
- Some local people who work from home are probably unlikely to use a café as a meeting point, however. Have their own support network

2.2.3 Business and Employment Opportunities and Needs

- Little employment in the village (for residents of any new builds) so everyone could be commuting
- Young people typically leave the area to find work
- New businesses on airfield would provide more local employment eg for young people living in the parish – see Airfield below
- Recommend finding out what sort of businesses could operate from here eg by talking to the business communities in Chippenham and Bath
- Increase level of tourism a bit, focusing on the environmental aspects and creativity eg a trail passing mini 'shopping outlets' eg selling honey, art

2.2.4 Transport and Connectedness

- No decent roads, only a C road. Roads would need scaling up if more development and traffic –would the developers pay?
- A viaduct to the A420 has been suggested in the past
- But do we want an A road anyway?
- More housing – more traffic – would impact on Batheaston, Ashwicke, The Shoe, Ford. Objections were made to the hangar development and the associated increase in traffic by BANES (Bannerdown / Batheaston)
- Tutton Hill – lorries and trucks getting stuck – damage is a problem as well as chaos
- Need to designate some roads as unsuitable for access
- Create better links eg cycle path to link the whole area (Colerne, Pinewood and Thickwood and Marshfield). Two lanes – one for walking, one for cycling
- Thickwood footpath in a terrible state
- Footbridge across the C151 linking the airfield to Colerne village
- Bus service should continue. If Park & Ride in Bath goes ahead, it will kill our bus
- Buses need to be more frequent and cheaper – then more people will use them
- No bus service back to village after 6pm. Issue for teenagers getting to/from Bath in the evening – parents have to ferry them
- No bus link to Chippenham, only the school bus (which the public can use too). Term time only
- Community bus scheme already operating in other villages. Extending Link scheme into community buses. Volunteers or commercial (eg Wellow runs a bus for school children and community)
- Mini bus to A4 has been suggested in the past
- Probably a market for car share; requests seen on Facebook
- Perhaps a car club – eg someone's second car if not fully used?
- Limited experience of using Uber. Taking a Uber taxi from Bath to Colerne seems good, but expensive to call a Uber taxi (3-4 taxis available) to pick up from Colerne
- Expect to have less vehicle use in the future

2.2.5 Environment / Land Management

- Community / school car park in the field to the east of school; also for residents to park their cars at night
- Open spaces – community access
- Solar panels – eg at Lyneham (100 hectares)
- Problem of light pollution (from existing street lights) and from additional lighting needed for any new development
- See Airfield below

2.2.6 Energy / Utilities

Telecomms

- Connectivity – much improved compared to past service, but copper wires are unreliable. Would need to be upgraded to service new developments

Electricity

- Street lighting - energy needs to be used efficiently, not unnecessarily – powered by solar panels

General

- Bath is modeling itself as a ‘clean city’ – can we piggy back off this?

2.3 General Opinions

2.3.1 Strengths

- Working village / not picturesque
- Dark skies
- Quiet at night
- Solid community
- Full spectrum of population
- Ease of access to eg Bath / Bristol / Chippenham / London (fast train service)
- Does not seem like a commuter village (note that not all commuters commute every day)

2.3.2 Weaknesses

- More housing for commuters – might drive house prices up (for people trying to get onto the housing ladder)

2.4 A Vision for the Future

- A beautiful place to live

2.5 The Airfield

- Any large scale housing development on the airfield would become a village in its own right
- Against very large housing development on airfield – eg road access is a major issue
- Pockets of homes, not mass development
- Need to balance housing with other uses of land
- Open spaces, community access
- Woodland areas, with associated woodland businesses
- Adventure park, activities for teenagers
- Golf course
- Sporting lake eg like the one at Eton
- Vineyard perhaps – understood that a local Wine Company is suggesting this
- Maybe the airstrip could be kept as is

- Sustainable energy generation – solar or wind power (on Fosse Way), feeding cash payments back into the community – provided that this would not detract from the beauty of the area
 - No windmills close to the village – noise pollution
- New businesses eg -mini business estate or industrial estate, mini hangars, potters' mini hangar
- Employment will be created during MOD site development
- Shops
- Utilities need considering eg
 - Broadband
 - Water pressure
- Educational needs – school expansion
- Any building needs to be sustainable – no infrastructure needs be installed if this is designed properly. (MOD area could be brilliantly designed using biomass fuels and all sustainable energy waste management)
- C151 is natural barrier to joining the village if MOD development goes ahead. New residents will not use existing facilities if new ones are built on MOD land
- Could have strip of land where hangars are as green belt to separate the village and airfield development
- Would MOD give a proportion of the land back to the community in recognition of the support that the Parish has given to the base? Could focus on the environmental benefits

3 Future Consultations and Research

This is the fourth of this type of public consultation. A consultation with representatives from clubs and societies will take place in July.

Other consultations suggested:

- With young people - talk to young people at a Choices forum

Further research suggested:

- Woodland Trust – creation of woodland areas and businesses?
- Highways Authority – what is the capacity of the current road system?
- Bath University – could the airfield provide sport facilities?
- Bath and Chippenham Business Communities – what types of businesses could operate in the parish?
- Other villages – what types of business do they have operating locally?

4. Definitions and Clarifications

Sale of the Airfield – There is no definitive date for this. Any change to the use of land will have a Master Plan developed by the MOD in conjunction with Wiltshire Council and the Parish Council, so a full consultation with the community will take place.

5. Statistics

Total number of attendees: 13

From Colerne village: 12

From North Colerne (Pinewood)

From Thickwood: 1

Number of men: 7

Number of women: 6

Of whom: Retired 2
Working age 11

How people heard about the consultation:

Parish Magazine: 1

May Fair stall:

Via email:

Via Facebook: 3

Word of mouth: 4

From leaflet: 2

Notice on pole: 3