



*St Edmundsbury*  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# B510

## Cabinet 16 March 2011

### Recommendations from Rural Area Working Party: 10 March 2011 (Mar11/04)

*Cabinet Member: Cllr John Griffiths    Chairman of the Working Party:  
Cllr Jim Thorndyke*

#### 1. Rural Action Plan 2011 to 2014

***RECOMMENDED:- That***

- (a) the Rural Action Plan for 2011 to 2014, attached as Appendix A to Report B499, be recommended for approval; and***
- (b) the Corporate Director for Community Services, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Rural Area Working Party be authorised, to make any necessary minor amendments to the final document prior to publication.***

On 1 December 2010 Cabinet agreed to extend the Rural Action Plan for a further three years to cover the period from April 2011 to March 2014 (Minute 87(d)(1) refers).

The first phase of consultation, asking members of the public for project ideas, was carried out in December 2010. Following an analysis of the responses received, a draft Rural Action Plan was presented to the Rural Area Working Party on 13 January 2011 (Paper B408 refers). At this meeting the draft Rural Action Plan was approved by Members to go out to consultation. The second phase of consultation, therefore, took place from 14 January to 28 February 2011. The responses from this phase of consultation have now been analysed and a final Rural Action Plan has been produced and is attached to Report B499.

#### 2. Petition: Reinstatement of some form of regular public transport through the villages of Stansfield and Poslingford

The Working Party received a petition containing over 110 signatures which called upon the Borough Council for support against the sudden cancellation of the daily bus service through Stansfield and Poslingford. A representative of the petitioners addressed the Working Party and highlighted the problems now being encountered, particularly by the elderly and the young.

The petitioners were made aware that rural bus services were not a responsibility of the Borough Council but was a County Council function. The Working Party recognised the problems highlighted and various potential solutions were considered. It was concluded that the Working Party should try and initiate a meeting between the bus operators, Suffolk County Council and representatives of the Borough Council in order to see if there were any possible solutions.

**The Cabinet is requested to note this item.**

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