

***Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement -
Tuesday, 1 March 2011***

Statement of Decision

Present: Councillor Michael Waine

Officers: D. Miller (Corporate Core)
B. Chillman and A. Millward

Also in attendance:

Other Members: Councillor David Nimmo-Smith

Petitions and Public Address

Documentation considered:

Report Petitions and Public Address

Henley Primary School Provision	Simon Smith, Chair of Governors, Badgemore Community Primary School Lesley Crocket, Acting Head Teacher, Badgemore Community Primary School Kevin Jacob, Governor, Badgemore Community Primary School Jo Edmondson, Chair of Governors, Trinity CE Primary Barry Wood, School Governor and Local Councillor Councillor David Nimmo-Smith, Local Member
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A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.

Henley Primary School Provision

Documentation considered:

Report Henley Primary School Provision

A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.

Summary of representations in person

Mr Smith spoke in support of development at Badgemore Community Primary School on the basis that Badgemore was not currently the most popular choice of School but was the school closest to the development areas and that he believed the school which would benefit most from expansion.

Lesley Crocket spoke in support of expansion to Badgemore School on the grounds that the school was currently not first choice in the local area due to unfair league tables and to there not being a level playing field as the school was so small.

Kevin Jacob spoke in support of an expansion to Badgemore School. He urged the Cabinet Member to choose Badgemore as it provided a way forward to put the school on a long term sound footing. He further believed that their schools' need was greater than Trinity.

Jo Edmondson spoke in support of expansion to Trinity School on the grounds that the school was very successful, but was facing problems due to mixed class.

Barry Wood spoke in support of expansion at Trinity, whilst suggesting the Council provide a new hall for Badgemore at the same time.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith commented that the argument was compelling for both schools – Badgemore was still not a school of first choice and Trinity was successful. He believed the question was “do we nurture Badgemore or further the success of Trinity?”.

Cabinet Member's Comments

This has been a very difficult decision to make. I have visited both schools. Both schools face problems - Badgemore due to it's postage stamp size and Trinity due to temporary accommodation and inadequate Hall issues. Both schools have put forward alternative schemes. I have based my Decision on fairness and the need to create a level playing field.

The decision has been very tight. I have great empathy with Trinity and the sustainability of the school and the school being able to operate properly in the community.

Decision

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

to approve the publication of a statutory notice for the expansion of Badgemore Primary School, Henley to 1 form entry, confirming that funds will be made available for the capital costs identified in paragraph 24 above.

Signed
Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement

Date