

Draft Minutes of the Malmesbury Area (1) Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2008 at Oaksey Village Hall, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:

Chairman: JPSS Thomson

Councillors: C Berry, RL Cinnamond, VH Greenman,
IJ Henderson, R Sanderson, TR Sturgis, VA Vines

Community Representatives:

G Lyme	Alderton Parish Council
T Fraser	Crudwell Parish Council
M Perrin	Crudwell Parish Council
O Gibbs	Brinkworth Parish Council
GThorne	Minety Parish Council
T Pooley	Little Somerford Parish Council
E Blacker	Dauntsey Parish Council
A Woodcock	Malmesbury Town Council

Officers Present:

L Bell (Deputy Chief Executive), J Densham (Democratic Services Assistant)
M Gilmour (Principal Community Partnership Officer) and M Todd (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

D Everett (WCC-County Highways)

Others Present:

K Oliver (Wilts & Berks Canal Trust), M Knight (Wilts & Berks Canal Trust), M Cole (Burnham House Project), T Mockler (M&VCAP)

M03. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr Bernard Ingham (St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council), J Matthews (Sherston Parish Council)

M04. Public Question/Receipt of Petitions

There were no public questions or petitions.

M05. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Area 1 Committee held on 23 January 2008 were considered.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2008 be signed as a correct record.



M06. Chairman's Announcements

Gypsy Site Consultation

At the last meeting of the Executive it was decided that a public consultation should take place regarding the provision of gypsy sites in North Wiltshire.

As part of the consultation process an Extraordinary meeting of this Committee has been arranged to discuss and put forward views on the proposed sites.

The meeting will take place on Thursday 5 June commencing at 7pm at Malmesbury Town Hall.

Late Application for Funding

The Chair informed the members that there had been a late application for funding from Maris Cole of the Burnham House Project which would be dealt with after the main applications.

M07. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

M08. Flooding in the Malmesbury Area

Cllr Greenman gave a verbal report regarding the work of the Flood Working Group.

Items discussed included:

- The Environment Agency and Network Rail have become more proactive and prepared to engage in dialogue and it was agreed that a more 'cohesive, holistic and coordinated approach' was required with NWDC coordinating the project;
- There is a need for a new topological survey to be conducted as the historic flood characteristics have altered due to various building works in the area including housing and the M4; and
- Wiltshire County Council have been very proactive in resolving problems such as vegetation clearance, ditch re-profiling and culvert clearance, however, the clearance of vegetation has been hampered by the discovery of crested newts.

Terry Fraser (Crudwell Parish Council) submitted a verbal report to the committee on the Flood Alleviation happening in Crudwell. Two major improvements have been identified that require the assistance of North Wiltshire District Council and the Flood Working Group to resolve:

- A two-stage watercourse from the A429 Bridge downstream for approximately 400 metres has been recommended by the Environment Agency and they have given their consent for this installation. NWDC Planning Department has ruled that a Full Planning Application must be submitted with detailed engineering drawings before the work can be approved. Crudwell require financial and technical assistance to continue this work. Cllr Greenman requested he be given an outline of the costs and details of methods of payment; and

- The second major area of concern is at Goosey Corner, Crudwell. In March 2005, NWDC Planning Department gave approval for an open culvert to be 'piped' with a 675mm pipe when the feed both into and out of the open culvert was at least 900mm. Consequently, severe flooding has occurred in this area on several occasions. The Flood Working Group has said that this will be examined by the use of CCTV but as yet nothing has been done. Mr D Everett pointed out that he had a meeting in Minety on 22 May 2008 to consider this issue.

In summary, the budget was considered inadequate to complete the schedule of work and an increase will be requested from the Corporate Management Board.

Mr D Everett gave a verbal report on the work being done currently in the area. There were three gangs working alongside local volunteers who have an expert knowledge of the area. The gangs were currently working in Dauntsey.

Cllr Woodcock (Malmesbury Town Council) raised two issues: 1) whether County had considered designing a Flood Prevention leaflet for distribution to householders and 2) the rationale of building housing at Dark Lane - an area historically known to suffer flooding. Mr Everett spoke of the leaflet that WCC were in the process of compiling and the planning consent at Dark Land stipulated the raising up of the houses.

Cllr Henderson raised the issue of flooding at Kingway Bridge. Mr Everett explained that a lack of maintenance had caused blocked pipes which he now had permission from Network Rail to clear them.

Cllr Sturgis suggested that the Environment Agency be called upon to provide the engineering drawings required by Crudwell and also requested that there be a better link between building regulations and planning to avoid oversights caused by working too tightly within each remit.

Cllr Gibbs (Brinkworth Parish Council) understood that there were currently £14518 surplus monies in the central fund and wished to know if it had been spent. Cllr Thomson requested an answer to this question at the next meeting. The Flood Working Group have also requested greater delegated powers be given to the Chief Executive to approve spending to speed up the work-programme tasks.

Cllr Greenman to arrange payment for the works required in Crudwell.

Cllr Greenman was working with Sir Michael Pitt to adopt recommendations in Sir Pitt's Interim Flood Report: Development and Flood Risk Planning Policy Statement (PPS25).

The Chairman thanked Mr Everett for attending the meeting and stated that he was pleased at the joint working to resolve the flooding issues.

Resolved that

- 1) £108 to be paid to Hankerton Parish Council; and
- 2) To receive a report on any spending from the Flooding Fund at the next meeting.

M09. Area 1 Community Area Funding Distribution 2007/08

Consideration was given to Report No. 7, circulated with the agenda, which presented recommendations relating to 4 funding applications from the 2008/09 Community Area Award Scheme.

Consideration was given to Report No.7a, which was not circulated with the agenda, which asked Members to consider recommendations for a late funding application for a Community Area Award. The application was for an arts project with current residents of Burnham House, Malmesbury, prior to their transfer to Athelstan House in July 2008.

Items discussed included:

- Mr K Oliver and Mr M Knight were present to support the application; however several concerns had been raised via email by members of the public. Some members also queried whether North Wiltshire District Council had taken any enforcement action against the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust.

Resolved that

1. The 2008/9 budget allocation and funding criteria for the Community Area Awards Scheme be noted; and

Agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2008/2009:

2. **Charlton Recreational Centre** – Award £4014 from the capital budget towards the refurbishment of a wooden floor and replacement of carpets, tables and chairs, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009.
3. **Malmesbury River Valleys Trust** – Award £750 from the revenue budget towards the creation of a dipping platform in Conygre Nature Reserve, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009.
4. **Wilts & Berks Canal Trust** – Defer consideration of an award pending further investigations into concerns raised.
5. **Little Somerford Village Hall Committee** – Award £1690 from the capital budget for the installation of disabled access/egress for the village hall, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009.

6. **Burnham House Arts Project** - Award £2200 from the revenue budget towards an arts project with residents, day care visitors and staff of Burnham House, conditional upon the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009.

M10. Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Planning Update

The Chairman congratulated Miranda Gilmour on her success in obtaining a secondment to Wiltshire County Council to work as Project Manager (Community Boards - Development Phase) in Malmesbury.

An update was received from Mr T Mockler on behalf of the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP).

Issues discussed included:

- Members of the Partnership wished to formally acknowledge the work Val Price has undertaken over the last few years in her role as Chairman. Val has regrettably had to resign from the partnership due to ill health;
- The annual task of updating the Community Plan was underway and members of the Partnership would like to make a plea to the town/parish council representatives to encourage the completion and return of the completed proformas to the Partnership as soon as possible;
- As a result of the Partnership contributing questions to the County Council's 'State of the Area' debate survey, representatives have been invited to receive initial feed-back of the results before a decision is made as to how the information will be shared with the wider community;
- Formal feedback from the researcher working on behalf of the Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships (WFCAP) is still awaited, however the initial feedback described them as being 'robust and functioning'; and
- The Partnership intends to have a stand promoting its role and purpose at the Sherston Parish Party on 15 June 2008.

The Chairman suggested hosting an event to celebrate the Community Plan deliverables. Miranda Gilmour suggested combining this event with an event to look at the Community Plan and address any issues. She also suggested we use the next meeting to consider how the Committee and their partnerships will work together to create a robust Community Board. This will also help raise the profile of the Partnership as we head towards Unitary.

Cllr Sanderson spoke of his desire to expand the community transport arrangements and requested any problems observed with re-routing or timings or any issues with road safety be forwarded to him. He also spoke of the possibility of linking with Tetbury and also suggested a once-a-month service to Cribbs Causeway which the public will need to endorse.

M11. Parish Council Update

There were no parish updates.

M12. Outside Bodies

Resolved that the following appointments be made:

Outside Body	Previous Representatives
Activity Zone Customer Focus	VH Greenman and R Sanderson
Malmesbury Conservation Liaison Group	RL Cinnamond
Malmesbury Community Safety Group	IJ Henderson and R Sanderson
Malmesbury Project Board	JPSS Thomson and IJ Henderson as deputy

The meeting started at 7.05pm and finished at 8.00pm.

There were 9 members of the public present.