

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** WESTBURY AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Bratton, Jubilee Hall, Melbourne Street, Bratton, Westbury BA13 4RW  
**Date:** 3 February 2011  
**Start Time:** 7.00 pm  
**Finish Time:** 9.25 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr David Jenkins (Chairman), Cllr Julie Swabey (Vice Chairman) and  
Cllr Russell Hawker

Cllr Lionel Grundy OBE - (Cabinet Member for Children's Services)

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Sally Hendry - Westbury Community Area Manager

Julia Cramp - Service Director for Commissioning and Performance, Department for  
Children and Education

Anna Thurman - Democratic Services Officer

Bill Parks - Divisional Highways Manager

Vincent Albano - Climate Change Project Manager

Sally Willox - Youth Development Officer

### **Town and Parish Councillors**

Westbury Town Council - B Braid, S Ezra, C Mitchell, K Harvey, S Andrews, F  
Morland

Bratton Parish Council - K Davis, R Pearce, K Drewett, K Miller, J Snooks, A Whittle,

Edington Parish Council - ME Jones  
Heywood Parish Council - P Sexstone, K Youngs, F Brine

**Partners**

BA13+ Community Area Partnership - Reverend Jonathan Burke  
Wiltshire Police Authority - Cllr Ricky Rogers

**Members of Public in Attendance: 51**

**Total in attendance: 81**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
1.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome, Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Westbury Area Board being held in such a wonderful venue and thanked CAYPIG for their delicious smoothies. He went on to explain that agenda item 9 – Highways Issues and the B3098 would not take place due to Dave Bullock being unwell. This agenda item would take place at a special separate meeting later in March, date and venue to be confirmed.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mike Cuthbert-Murray, Dai Davies from Cross point and Carole King from Community Area Partnership, Dr Peter Biggs, Michelle Slade and Dave Bullock Head of Service Traffic &amp; Network Manager.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Councillors David Jenkins and Russell Hawker declared a prejudicial interest in Items 15a (1) A Community Area Grant application from Westbury Town Council and 15b Performance Reward Grant application from the Laverton Institute Trust) as they were all dual-hatted members of Westbury Town Council and Wiltshire Council. However, they had all been granted dispensations by the Standards Committee which enabled them to speak and vote on the matter.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman made the following announcements:</p> <p><b>a) Street Trading</b></p> <p>Currently there is not a harmonised street trading policy for the Wiltshire Council area.</p> <p>The Licensing Committee agreed to introduce a new harmonised consent street trading scheme across the Wiltshire Council area. This will provide a flexible means of controlling street trading activity and allow greater scope for local involvement in decision making through a thorough consultation process for all applications for Street Trading Consents.</p> <p>An executive summary of the proposed scheme is available in</p>	

the agenda and a full copy of the proposed scheme and consultation survey is available on the Wiltshire Council website. All interested parties should return **written responses** to the Wiltshire Council Licensing Team **by 17 March**.

If members of the public or interested groups would like to complete the survey form, the survey is available on the Wiltshire Council website at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations.htm>.

#### **b) Public Protection Enforcement Policy**

The Public Protection Service is reviewing its enforcement policy, and is seeking views from interested stakeholders.

The policy deals with the entire range of legislation administered by the Public Protection Service covering all environmental health and trading standards powers, as well as any relevant community safety and emergency planning laws. The draft enforcement policy is on the council's website. <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/environmentandplanning/publicprotection/publicprotectionenforcementpolicy.htm>

#### **c) Fairtrade**

Fairtrade is based on the idea that small producers in the developing world should be paid a price for their produce that covers the cost of production and gives the family a living wage. The producer makes a long term agreement in advance with the Fairtrade purchasing company that ensures a guaranteed minimum price.

The Fairtrade mark on products is a guarantee that adherence to the agreement is being monitored. It has been in existence for 16 years and is now widely recognised though not necessarily widely understood.

The success of the Fairtrade movement so far is due in large part to the efforts of small local groups with the support of larger organisations. There are nine towns in Wiltshire which have achieved the status of Fairtrade town awarded by the Fairtrade Foundation.

The Wiltshire Fairtrade Coalition is an association of local Fairtrade town groups, businesses, other organisations and individuals working to promote understanding and uptake of Fairtrade produce. The coalition offers mutual support and

encouragement to members and aims to make Wiltshire a Fairtrade county.

#### **d) Childcare Sufficiency Statement**

Local authorities have a duty, under the Childcare Act 2006, to assess the sufficiency of childcare in their area and produce a report. Wiltshire's second report has now been drafted and it is out for consultation on the Wiltshire Council website:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schoolseducationandlearning/earlyyearsandchildcare/childcaresufficiencyassessment.htm>.

Any comments should be forwarded to the early year's team using the response sheet provided on the website by **20 March 2011**. The final report will be published on the website before 1 April 2011.

Further information is available from [earlyyears@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@wiltshire.gov.uk)

#### **e) Outcome of Leisure Review**

Wiltshire Council's Cabinet has considered the results of the extensive consultation exercise undertaken between July and October and approved a refined proposal which shall;

- Retain a strategic view and ensure that the indoor leisure facilities are a key component of the emerging community campus programme.
- Ensure that the indoor leisure facility service in Wiltshire will be enhanced which creates more opportunities for local people to actively pursue a healthy lifestyle.
- Give a clear message about the Council's commitment to providing high quality and efficient local services.
- Deliver a refined proposal that has been directly shaped by local people.

The Council has been clear about its proposals to transfer some of the local facilities to the community to manage. The Council will now consider the proposal to transfer these facilities in a wider strategic context to enable it to assess the impact of a potential transfer alongside other council buildings and services. This will enable the Council to consider the practicalities and options for wider campus developments.

	<p>The Council's approach is intended to retain community involvement in the campus development project as it is recognised that local input is critical to success.</p> <p>This refined proposal for leisure acts as a pre-cursor to a report that the Workplace Transformation Team will present to Cabinet on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011 that sets out the high level principles behind a sustainable and affordable campus development project.</p> <p>Assuming the Council approves the proposed way forward, the Council will continue to work closely with Area board and this will provide the method whereby interested local people and organisations will be able to get directly involved. The Council is keen to continue the on-going dialogue which has already been established with local community groups regarding the local management of services and the Workplace Transformation Team will attend the next Westbury Area Board meeting in April to discuss the proposals further.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>	
6.	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p><b>Wiltshire Fire and Rescue</b>  Update from Wiltshire Fire and Rescue was included in the agenda at pages 41 to 42.</p> <p><b>NHS Wiltshire</b>  Update from NHS Wiltshire for December and January were included in the agenda at pages 43 to 48.</p> <p><b>Edington Parish Council</b>  Cllr Michael Jones expressed his concern over the recent announcements regarding cuts to rural bus routes and asked for a report to be brought to the next Board detailing the cuts, if any, to Wiltshire's rural bus routes.</p> <p><b>Westbury Town Council</b>  Cllr Christine Mitchell reported that all the Christmas events went extremely well and were very popular. The next event will be a French Market to be held on 30 April 2011.</p> <p>Cllr Sue Ezra, reported on the work being undertaken on Vision for Westbury. Westbury Town Council is working with Wiltshire</p>	<p><b>Sally Hendry/  Cllr Julie Swabey</b></p>

	<p>Council to prepare a new Vision and Scoping Study for Westbury which will inform planning policy and set out clear recommendations to address issues in the town.</p> <p>Following the Christmas Street Event Day to talk to residents they received 350 comments about how they felt about the town, in general it was felt that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was a nice town</li> <li>• Shopping facilities should be improved</li> <li>• Leisure and community facilities should be improved</li> <li>• Roads and public transport should be improved</li> </ul> <p><b>Westbury Chamber of Commerce</b></p> <p>The Chairman announced that the Chamber of Commerce, TransWilts Community Rail and Wiltshire Council were supporting the TransWilts rail proposal, a north-south rail service for a 6 train per day service in each direction operated by First Great Western serving the 8 stations between Salisbury and Swindon.</p> <p>He reminded people of the New Wiltshire Business Competition for further details on both visit the Wessex Chamber of Commerce website <a href="http://www.wessexchambers.org.uk">www.wessexchambers.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>BA13+ Community Area Partnership (CAP)</b></p> <p>Reverend Jonathan Burke Chairman of BA13+CAP updated the Area Board. The main focus of work for the CAP continues to be the Community Plan linked with Vision for Westbury, Restorative Justice and the young person’s transport plan. The BA13+CAP has a funds of £12,000 grants can be allocated for up to £500 to non - profit making organisations.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Lionel Grundy OBE, Cabinet Member for Children's Services</u></p> <p>Lionel Grundy OBE, Councillor for Urchfont and The Cannings outlined his role as Cabinet member for Children’s Services. His responsibility is to overview policy, provision and the operations of Children’s Services. There are also 3 portfolio holders for schools, youth and skills and vulnerable children.</p> <p>Since the formation of the Unitary Council, Children’s Services has been undertaking a rigorous programme of restructuring, targeting services such as youth development and children’s rights. Since the election there has been a significant re-focus of activities, an</p>	

	<p>example is the formation of academies. From the 1 April the Council faces a 28% cut in grants – this will dramatically affect the way business is conducted. The budget will be decided at the Cabinet meeting on 15 February.</p> <p>Cllr Grundy responding to a question from the public reassured those present that Children’s Services were liaising closely with Leisure Review and Work Place Transformation teams in order to ensure that children’s needs were catered for.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Community and Young People's Issue Group (CAYPIG)</u></p> <p>Sally Willox, Youth Development Co-ordinator/Team Leader updated the Board on a number of projects that CAYPIG were currently involved in.</p> <p>To date approximately 796 different young people aged from 12-19 have used the facilities since 1 April 2010. 88 young people have achieved accreditations with 43 further qualifications nearing completion by April 2011.</p> <p><b>Smoothy Bar Project</b> This project has generated a lot of interest within the group, designing recipes and making Smoothy’s at the Centre and developing plans to develop their project by serving at community events. The members involved are completing their ASDAN Activities Award and Enterprise Award with the ultimate aim to establish a smoothy/milkshake bar in the town.</p> <p><b>Leisure Credits</b> This involves young people carrying out voluntary work within the community and in return being given credits that would be exchanged for activities and trips such as ice-skating, cinema and bowling. The scheme is launching in February half term by means of a programme of work at the Youth Development Centre. It will provide experience, new skills, develop interest and improve their employability for the future, as well as rewarding them with an accredited award through the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.</p> <p><b>Young People’s Transport Scheme</b> This scheme is due to commence in February half term and will be begin with a structured sports development project. The pilot will run for 6 months.</p> <p><b>Wiltshire Youth Centres Football League</b> A football league has been developed to enable youth centres’ to play against each other on a regular basis.</p>	



9.	<p><u>Highways Issues and the B3098</u></p> <p>Due to illness Dave Bullock, Transport and Network Manager, was unable to attend. It was decided that as this was such an important issue it would be addressed at a special individual meeting in March.</p> <p>Steve Lloyd, Coordinator of the Bratton Community Speed Watch updated the Board on their activities. There are currently 6 volunteers working in teams of 3. The speed gun is shared between Edington and Heywood. A note is made of vehicles exceeding the limit and is passed to the Police, who then may take the matter further. Their main priority is to reduce the speed of vehicles through the village centre, however other areas are also targeted.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Solar Farm Proposals</u></p> <p>Lindsay Holdoway and Chris Wordsworth of HPH Ltd gave a comprehensive presentation for a proposed solar panel farm at Mill Lane, Hawkeridge. The presentation included artist's impressions of its place in the landscape as viewed from Westbury White Horse and from the roadside together with photographs of similar developments elsewhere. The site is 15 hectares dissected in the middle by Mill Lane and adjacent to the Hawkeridge primary substation. HPH Ltd intend to mask the site from view by allowing the natural hedges to grow up to 3 metres in height and field maples will be planted to obscure the view. Grass maintenance between the panels will be undertaken by grazing sheep. The timetable associated with this is;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public consultation Jan – Feb 2011</li> <li>• Planning application submission – Feb 2011-02-07</li> <li>• If consent granted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Installation works start Oct/Nov 2011-02-07</li> <li>▪ Generation 2012</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The change of use from a field to a solar panel farm proved to be an emotive subject, with local residents of Mill Lane expressing their concerns over the potential erection of the farm. Local parishes expressed a range of concerns that 'everybody' should have the ability to share their views and have their say. Cllr Julia Swabey, local member representing Heywood Parish invited residents to contact her and that she would ensure that concerns were dealt with appropriately and fairly.</p>	
11.	<p><u>Wiltshire Police Authority</u></p> <p>Councillor Ricky Rogers representing Wiltshire Police Authority</p>	

	<p>gave a presentation on the Police budgets cuts in spending. The Police budget needs to make £15 million in savings over the next 4 years, the result of this is that the Force is likely to have 150 fewer officers and 200 fewer staff. The main priorities are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping the public safe on the streets and at home</li> <li>• Keeping neighbourhood police officers and PCSOs at the current levels.</li> <li>• Responding promptly to emergency 999 calls</li> <li>• Maintaining an acceptable standard for call handling to deal with general enquiries and non urgent calls.</li> </ul> <p>Through the changes, the aim is to save money and provide a more flexible police service across the whole county. It is intended to keep the 11 policing sectors as they are because this way of working mirrors the way other agencies deliver their services. Neighbourhood Policing Teams will continue to be aligned to local authority community area boards or cluster areas in Swindon, so that they can work effectively with other agencies to address community issues. Response policing teams will primarily operate from Swindon, Melksham and Salisbury where the custody centres are based. The specialist policing services (police dogs, roads policing) will remain, while crime investigators, including CID, will work locally alongside response police officers. The Swindon and County divisional structures will be merged, so removing a tier of management and administration.</p> <p>In the proposed new structure Wiltshire Police will have the flexibility to deploy any officer to where they are most needed.</p> <p>For further information <a href="http://www.wiltshire.pa.gov.uk">www.wiltshire.pa.gov.uk</a></p>	
12.	<p><u>Crosspoint</u></p> <p>Reverends Jennifer Totney and Jonathan Burke outlined the background and progress on plans for a drop in centre in Westbury.</p> <p>The first project is to open a Welcome Centre where people can see a friendly face, be listened to and helped if necessary. It is recognised that people may not know where to go to get help and advice and may not initially feel comfortable with statutory agencies. The intention is to help to empower people, not create dependency. The drop in centre will be open to all 3 to 4 mornings</p>	

	<p>a week or half days for coffee/tea, chat in a non–threatening, supportive and friendly environment.</p> <p>The need for this facility has been researched and £6000 towards this project has already been raised. Currently the project is negotiating premises in the town, raising public awareness and engaging with various agencies.</p> <p>For further information and an opportunity to volunteer or contribute visit <a href="http://www.crosspoint/westbury.co.uk">www.crosspoint/westbury.co.uk</a></p>	
13.	<p><u>Community Policing Update</u></p> <p>The Chairman informed the Board that Inspector Dave Minty was unable to attend this evening due to immediate operational commitments, but had provided a report. A shortened version is detailed below.</p> <p>Over the last three months performance has fluctuated. The aim is to make Wiltshire the safest County in the Country and it is pleasing that violent crime has reduced by 25% on the same period last year. Dwelling burglaries are also down, by 23.3%, which equates to 10 less victims than last year.</p> <p>Currently there is an increase in non-dwelling burglaries, these are mostly shed breaks. 4 individuals have been arrested and are currently on police bail whilst investigations take place. Anyone with information should inform the police.</p> <p>Following the last Area Board, there has been a concerted effort to increase the number of visible foot patrols undertaken by staff in the town. It is a priority.</p> <p><a href="http://www.wiltshirepolice.uk">www.wiltshirepolice.uk</a></p>	
14.	<p><u>Issues Updates</u></p> <p>Sally Hendry, Community Area Manager, updated the Board on the issues, wide and varied, that are concerning the community area.</p> <p>White Horse – The White Horse was painted by English Heritage 3.5 years ago at a cost of approximately £23K. English Heritage report that it is scheduled to be re-painted every 10 years. There is no scope for volunteers to paint it as there are significant health and safety implications.</p> <p>Speed Checks – There are a number of metro counts being</p>	

	<p>undertaken around the community area at the moment.</p> <p>Grot Spots – As a part of Community Payback/Wiltshire probation service are undertaking a clear up, cut back and litter pick of Wellhead woods.</p> <p>Heywood Traffic – There have been meetings with the Parish Council and Tumblewood School. Warning signage will be erected in the following two weeks.</p> <p>Westbury Library - Westbury has favoured relatively well in the review, having to cut back its hours by 5.5 hours a week. Volunteers are welcome.</p> <p>Neil Tribick from Westbury Leisure Alliance (WLA) updated the Board on the current situation of Westbury’s leisure facilities. All Councillors were written to, many of whom claim not to have received the e-mail asking that Westbury Leisure facilities remain under Council control. The Leisure review now falls under the remit of the Work Place Transformation Team and it now comes under the Estate Review rather than Leisure. The Alliance is still chasing Councillor Wheeler for a response to the initial e-mail from the Alliance but to date he has not responded.</p> <p>The Chairman suspected that information would be limited until the outcome of the next Cabinet meeting on 15 February where the financial position of the Council would be discussed.</p>	<p><b>Sally Hendry/ Cllr Julie Swabey</b></p>
<p>15.</p>	<p><u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>a) Councillors considered 5 applications for Community Area Grants.</p> <p>1. An application has been received from Westbury Town Council – award £545 to match fund the purchase of a mobile projector, screen and whiteboard for community use.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>Westbury Area Board awarded the sum of £545 to Westbury Town Council.</b></p> <p><b>Reason</b></p> <p><b><i>The application met the Community Area Grants criteria 2010/11 and linked to Wiltshire Council’s priorities of Westbury area community plan (Improving</i></b></p>	<p><b>Sally Hendry</b></p>





	<p>2) An application has been received from the new Wiltshire Infrastructure Support Service – ‘GROW’ <i>Enhancing Community Support</i> includes a countywide Volunteer Service for Wiltshire for the first time. This application, if approved, would both build on the basic service and develop an accredited volunteer centre for Wiltshire. At present the nearest accredited centre is in Swindon. The proposed service would offer the six core functions of a Volunteer Centre as prescribed by Volunteering England. The benefits to all community areas in Wiltshire will include better access to volunteering opportunities and support to individuals, Employer Volunteering scheme, specialised support, information and good practice services, access to draw down further funding via Volunteering England to support volunteering, and access to support and information as part of a national framework.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>Westbury Area Board supported the Performance Reward Grant application from The Laverton Trust.</b></p>	<p><b>Sally Hendry</b></p>
<p>16.</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>There were no items.</p>	
<p>17.</p>	<p><u>Future date, Forward Plan and Close</u></p> <p>The forward plan was noted.</p> <p>The next meeting of Westbury Area Board will take place on the 7 April at The Paragon Hall, Westbury, 7.00pm.</p>	