



DEVIZES COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP

Update for Devizes Area Board July 2011

Annual General Meeting

This took place on 6th June and was attended by 22 people. Mr Roger Chadwick was re-elected as Chairman, Cllr Paula Winchcombe as Vice-Chairman and Cllr Ray Parsons as Treasurer. Since the AGM Roger Chadwick has announced that he will need to stand down in December 2011 due to an increase in work commitments.

The AGM also provided an opportunity to hear more about Wiltshire Council's draft Core Strategy from Carolyn Gibson. A key issue for the Devizes Area is the impact of the current and future increase in housing on the local infrastructure. DCAP's thematic groups are asking searching questions about how to reduce traffic congestion, and limit the associated air pollution which is potentially damaging to health.

Community Area Plan update

11,500 questionnaires have been distributed to households in the Community Area as part of the DCAP consultation. 2000–3000 responses have been received. The information from these is continuing to be entered into the online version of the questionnaire. Statistics from those questionnaires will be presented at the July Area Board meeting, along with initial indications of the themes which appear to be of most concern to the public.

Thematic Groups

Since the last Area Board meeting there have been meetings of the following groups:

- The Culture & Leisure group, discussing a variety of topics including funding issues and the revision of Wiltshire Council's 13 – 19 year old strategy.
- The Housing & Built Environment group, discussing the proposals within the draft Core Strategy, the need to address pollution problems, and the lack of affordable housing.
- The Devizes Community Area Safety Committee, discussing the Police's priorities for the coming quarter, & positive discussions with local businesses about contributing to CCTV funding.
- The Transport group, discussing cycling routes in advance of the move of St. Peter's School to a new site, and continuing concerns about traffic congestion and air pollution in Devizes.

The Economy group is in urgent need of a new Chairman since the departure of Mitch Roberts. It would be useful to find somebody who could promote the use of high-speed broadband and give full attention to the tourism opportunities of the local area.

Parish Councils

The Parish Council Forum has come to the end of its pilot year and terms of reference are being finalised to formalise this Forum for the future. The DCAP AGM agreed that six Parish Council Forum members would be entitled to represent the Forum at future DCAP meetings.

The next DCAP meeting takes place on Monday 5th September at 5.30pm at Browfort, Devizes