

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** CALNE AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Hilmarton Community Centre, Poynder Way, Hilmarton SN11 8SQ  
**Date:** 11 December 2012  
**Start Time:** 6.30 pm  
**Finish Time:** 8.50 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Christine Crisp (Chairman), Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Jane Scott OBE (Leader of Wiltshire Council) and Cllr Anthony Trotman (Vice Chairman)

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Ian Brown (Head of Revenues and Benefits), Alexa Smith (Democratic Services Officer), Elly Townsend (Wiltshire Time Credits Coordinator at Spice), Jane Vaughan (Community Area Manager) and Jenny Wilcockson (Digital Literacy Coordinator)

### **Town and Parish Councillors**

Calne Without Parish Council – Richard Aylen and Ed Jones  
Hilmarton Parish Council – Jeff Files

### **Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Phil Staynings and Sergeant Simon Wright  
Wiltshire Fire and Rescue – Mike Franklin

Calne Community Area Partnership – Malcolm Gull  
Wiltshire Citizens Advice - Sarah Cardy (Chief Executive Officer)

**Total in attendance: 35**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to Calne Area Board and introduced the councillors and officers present. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Jane Scott OBE, Leader of Wiltshire Council.</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Laurie Bell (Director of Communications), Geoff Dickerson (Heddington Parish Council), Councillor Alan Hill and Will Kay (Youth Development Coordinator).</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2012 were approved and signed as a correct record.</p>
4	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
5	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman drew attention to the written announcement included in the agenda pack regarding a masterplan for Calne. A display stand was available to view at the meeting.</p>
6	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p>a. The written update from Wiltshire Police was noted. Inspector Phil Staynings introduced himself and Sergeant Simon Wright. Inspector Staynings highlighted that Halloween had been a success in terms of crime and he was working with Calne Town Council to improve use of CCTV. Councillor Trotman added that Wiltshire Police now had a Facebook page. A question was raised about monitoring Facebook and the team explained it was a good medium to link with younger people and they tried to respond to any comment, positive or negative.</p> <p>b. The written update from Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service was noted. Mike Franklin added that Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service also had a Facebook page. He was pleased to report that, following inclusion in the Calne Community Area Network, a big increase in uptake of home fire safety checks had occurred, with 53 taking place in October. There had been a local incident in which five members of a family had been treated for carbon monoxide poisoning; this highlighted the importance of having a carbon monoxide detector fitted. There had been 12 chimney fires in the county in</p>

	<p>the first week of December. Please get your chimney swept if you intend to burn fossil fuels over the winter and visit the Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service website if you would like further information on having your Christmas decorations tested for fire safety purposes: <a href="http://www.wiltsfire.gov.uk/">http://www.wiltsfire.gov.uk/</a>.</p> <p>c. The written update from NHS Wiltshire was noted.</p> <p>d. The written update from Calne Community Area Partnership was noted.</p> <p>e. The Chairman stated that an update on the Community Area Young People's Issues Group would be requested for the next area board meeting.</p> <p>f. Calne Without Parish Council reported that white gates installation at Derry Hill was complete and the next project for the village was to have a defibrillator. The village was planting a tree at Chapel Street. Hilmarton Parish Council reported that a Community Speed Watch scheme was going ahead.</p>
7	<p><u>Spice Project</u></p> <p>Elly Townsend (Wiltshire Time Credits Coordinator at Spice) provided information about Wiltshire Time Credits.</p> <p>Wiltshire Time Credits was a tool to encourage more people to get involved in volunteering. There were personal benefits to volunteers in becoming involved in volunteering and wider benefits for the community. People can earn credits for an hour of volunteering and then spend them in a number of ways, for example by hiring a DVD from the library. Organisations external to Wiltshire Council were also involved, including Bowood House.</p> <p>The pilot scheme now engaged 200 people and 30% of these had not previously volunteered.</p> <p>Malcolm Gull (Calne Community Area Partnership) spoke about the introduction of the Wiltshire Time Credits scheme in Calne. There would be a meeting in late January with interested partners, including the Rotary Club and the Lions Club. The scheme was welcomed in Calne as an ideal vehicle to extend the large amount of volunteering already taking place in the community area.</p>
8	<p><u>Community Conversation</u></p> <p>Ian Brown, Head of Revenues and Benefits, and Sarah Cardy, Chief Executive Officer of Wiltshire Citizens Advice, introduced themselves and the theme for the meeting, 'Welfare Reform in Wiltshire'.</p> <p>Sarah explained the benefits system at present was confusing with 80-100 benefits available. Reform was taking place to make going to work pay, to reduce the benefits bill, to reduce dependency and to make the system simpler.</p>

	<p>Changes were already in place related to housing, tax credits (in particular child benefit), pregnancy grants and sickness funding.</p> <p>The welfare reform would put into place a universal credit, which would wrap up a series of benefits, including housing benefit. Most claims would take place online, any changes to circumstances would only need to be reported once, there would be a monthly payment made to households and a cap on the total amount of benefits awarded to a household, for example for larger families.</p> <p>Ian explained that 30,000 households were awarded benefit money in Wiltshire. Wiltshire Council had a role in collecting council tax. There were also plans to address under occupancy in social housing with 3,000 people affected in Wiltshire.</p> <p>With the reform, there would be locally discretionary social fund payments available to help with one off needs. A personal independence payment would replace disability living allowance as a fixed benefit for five years after an assessment had taken place. From 2013, the Government would reduce funding for benefits and from April, council tax bills would all have to contribute towards local support for council tax.</p> <p>More information on this subject was available to view on the Wiltshire Council website.</p> <p>There was then the opportunity to ask any questions. Points raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning applications should be linked to council tax locally – any extension now had to be reported to the valuation office and change to council tax would take place once the property was sold</li> <li>• There was the need to provide advice on budgeting since the new payments would be delivered on a monthly basis – GreenSquare had funding to provide this advice in the north of the county, but lacked this elsewhere</li> <li>• Wiltshire Council had agreed to fund a town and parish council shortfall, but were waiting for Government legislation.</li> </ul>
9	<p><u>Wiltshire Online</u></p> <p>Jenny Wilcockson, Digital Literacy Coordinator, gave a presentation on the 'Wiltshire Online' project, which aimed to improve access to broadband, ensure that local people could access free computer support and increase usage of online government services.</p> <p>Jenny explained that an estimated 68,000 in Wiltshire and 3,300 people in Calne had never been online. The majority of these were older people but a high proportion were people with disabilities or families on low incomes. These were the target groups for the programme of delivering free computer support.</p>

	<p>The benefits of helping people to get online include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoiding loneliness and isolation by promoting free/cheap communication via email, Facebook and Skype</li> <li>• Helping people develop IT skills which could lead to better job prospects and higher earning potential</li> <li>• Helping people to save up to £560 per year by shopping online, using price comparison websites, using online auction websites or paying bills online.</li> </ul> <p>As part of the programme, Wiltshire Council was seeking to recruit local volunteer coordinators and digital champion volunteers who could then provide the support in community venues such as libraries, or in someone's own home.</p> <p>Volunteers were now sought from the Calne Community Area and people were also invited to pre-register for support. Suggestions were also welcomed as to any WiFi hotspots in the area which might be suitable as venues under the scheme and could receive a 'Wiltshire Online' sticker. It was hoped that local computer groups would get in touch so that learners could be signposted to them. Working with the Community Hub would be important to the Programme.</p>
10	<p><u>The Legacy of 2012</u></p> <p>Councillor Jane Scott OBE, Leader of Wiltshire Council, provided a summary of the year's celebration events, including the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Olympic Torch Relay, the Festival of Celebration at Hudson's Field and the iconic picture of Michael Johnson at Stonehenge. This included showing a short film.</p> <p>£290,000 had been invested by Wiltshire Council to support communities, to support the economy and to publicise the county. A legacy board had now been established to carry on the success of this year through 2013 and beyond. The focus of the board would be to encourage every level of sport, from basic keep fit to promoting our future Olympians.</p> <p>Please get in touch through your Community Area Manager, Jane Vaughan, <a href="mailto:jane.vaughan@wiltshire.gov.uk">jane.vaughan@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>, if you were considering arranging events for your community.</p>
11	<p><u>Your Local Issues</u></p> <p>Councillors and representatives of current working groups provided an update on community issues and progress on Calne Area Board working groups.</p> <p>a. Tom Harries reported that since the previous Area Board meeting, the skate board park working group had held a non uniform day and undertaken bag packing in Sainsburys to raise funds for their project. The Push it Wheel Good campaign to raise their profile was working well and some people modelled their badges and a sweatshirt. The Area Board Councillors were</p>

	<p>also given a badge each and were asked to where it in support of the project. An illuminated skateboard made for the Calne lantern parade was on display at the meeting. A bid for funding from Viridor was nearly complete. Councillor Marshall added that any donations for the group towards a new skate park would be gratefully received. These could be directed via Jane Vaughan or the Community Area Partnership.</p> <p>b. Councillor Crisp reported that the next meeting of the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) would take place on 22 January 2013.</p> <p>c. Councillor Hill had provided information about the Calne campus working group in advance of the Area Board meeting, please find this attached to the minutes.</p> <p>d. Councillor Trotman reported that the Section 106 (Sandpit Road) working group had put in metro lines at Oxford Road. This would be a possible solution to traffic calming at Abberd Way. Section 106 contributions for the applications approved for Oxford Road and Silver Street were discussed and whether the same approach for local involvement would be used as for the Sandpit Road. The Chairman proposed that Councillor Trotman was asked to continue his work to cover these two additional developments.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Calne Area Board agreed that the Sandpit Road Working Group look at the Section 106 provisions for the two developments mentioned above.</b></p> <p>e. Councillor Hill had provided information about the air quality working group. The group was in the middle of a public consultation regarding the geographical extent of the area, which was due to finish at the end of December. Councillor Hill asked that, in order to progress with planning actions that would address the issue of air quality in the town, the Area Board considered deferring the decision of the choice of the Management Area to the ABC meeting in January.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  Calne Area Board agreed to defer the decision on the choice of site to the Area Board Co-ordinating group that would meet on Tuesday 8 January (based upon the results of the community ballot online and from the ballot box that had been in the Community Hub since the start of this piece of work and was available at the meeting).</p>
<u>Campus news 1</u>	
12	<p><b><u>Area Board Funding</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the three applications made to the Community Area Grants Scheme.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Calne Community Area Partnership were awarded £995 to provide two projects promoting reading and literacy amongst children aged 8-11 and</b></p>

11-14 for the Page Turners project.

**Reason**

*The application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria and it provides positive activities for young people.*

**Decision**

Calne Tennis Club were awarded £5,000 towards four new floodlit hard tennis courts at the Beversbrook Sports facility, conditional on the balance of funding being in place; all lease/landownership issues being confirmed and on the applicant's agreement to provide evidence of accessible membership opportunities and attempts to involve young people and families on low income to the Area Board following completion of the project.

**Reason**

*The application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria and the club intends to reach out more widely to the community.*

**Decision**

St Laurence Church Hilmarton Parochial Church Council were awarded £4025 towards the provision of a new kitchen/disabled toilet and nappy changing facilities.

**Reason**

*The application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria and it will provide accessible space within the Parish Church in Hilmarton that will allow it to be used for secular activities.*

Councillors were then asked to consider delegated authority over the elections period.

**Decision**

That in respect of urgent matters that may arise from time to time between meetings of an Area Board, the Community Area Manager, in consultation with the unitary councillors on the Area Board, be granted authority to make any necessary decisions (such as agreement of CATG funding allocations and Community Area Partnership Funding). A report explaining the decision and the reasons why it was considered to be urgent shall be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Area Board to ensure that such decisions are subject to public examination.

And it was noted that:

At the ABC meeting held on 30 October 2012, the Area Board Co-ordinating group used its delegated authority to spend £250 as a contribution towards promotional items for the use of young people involved in the Calne Bowl Project 'Push it Wheel Good' campaign, to

	<b>raise a positive image of young people in the Calne Community Area.</b>
13	<u>Close</u>  The Chairman thanked everyone for attending in the unpleasant weather and wished all a Happy Christmas. The next Area Board meeting would be held at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 5 February at Calne Town Hall, with refreshments available from 6.00 pm.