

SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD
(1 August 2013)

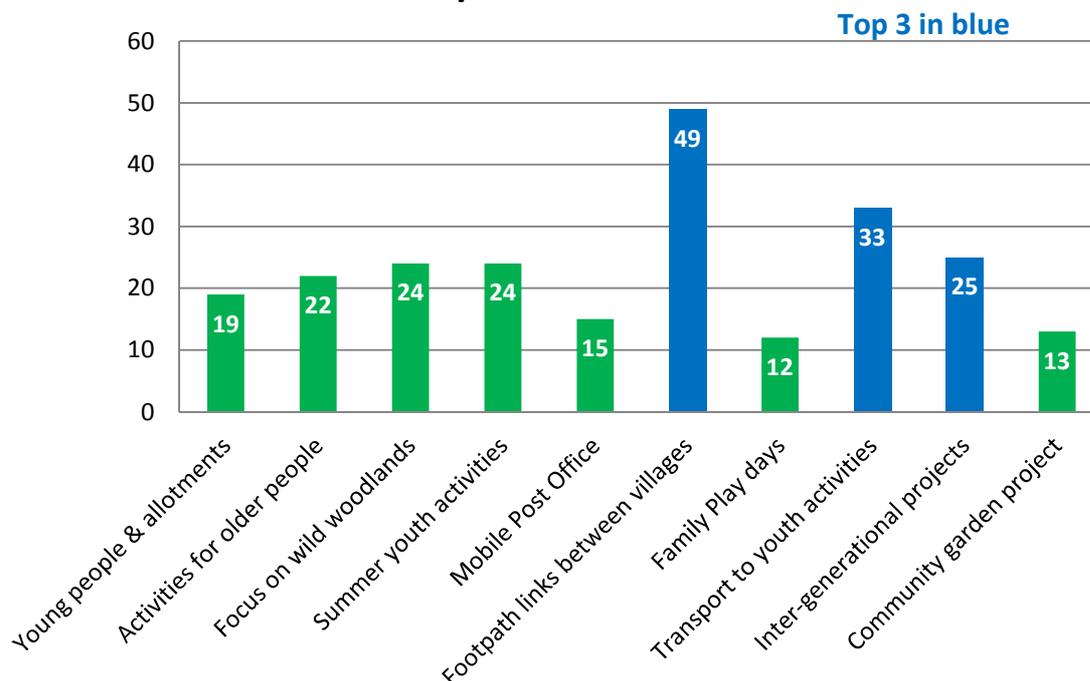
Southern Wiltshire Area Board Theme for 2013/14

Background

Since 2011 the Area Board has consulted residents to determine the Area Board's themes for the year. Our previous themes so far have been local employment (2011/12), community safety, volunteering and footpaths (2012/13). Our main focus is to identify projects that are both **important**, **achievable** and which lead to **collaborative solutions across the area**.

At the last meeting we had a workshop session where 10 potential project ideas emerged. Everyone at the meeting had a chance to vote on their top 3 and the options were also circulated in online survey format after the meeting. The results were as follows:

Southern Wiltshire Area Board Themes for 2013/14 Consultation



The proposal

The Area Board proposes to take forward 2 main projects this year. The ideas that have come forward mean that some issues can be grouped in order to tackle them together within the same theme. ie. youth related issues.

Based on our consultation we have put together 2 main topic areas to take forward:

1. Footpath links between villages

Footpaths have again emerged as a key issue people would like the Area Board to work on. Improving footpaths was last year's theme and the fantastic work achieved so far provides the foundation for the existing task group to take this theme forward in 2013/14.

Possible tasks:

- Try to identify linking possibilities between existing footpath routes or between routes and parishes.
- See if any past linking routes have fallen into disuse and need to be reopened.
- Consider possibilities for entirely new routes.

Proposal:

1. Tom Bray to ask Parishes where links between villages can be improved.
2. Leo Randall to host a meeting with volunteer Coordinators and Nick Cowen to develop a plan of action.

2. Youth activities

Transport to youth activities came out second in the consultation. There were also a number of other youth-related issues in the list that emerged from our workshop. Therefore we would like to develop a way of working through our Youth Development Coordinator, Tony Nye, to try to improve leisure and developmental opportunities available to the young people in our Community Area.

Our community area does not have a natural hub, where residents would go to from across the area. This is why our youth service delivery proposals are village-based.

We propose the notion of clustering those villages with an obvious physical connection or proximity. Through these village clusters we can endeavour to achieve the following:

1. Identify and promote existing activities for young people within each cluster.
2. Where there is no youth club within the cluster, promote the provision of one. (Voluntary-led with support from the youth service.)
3. Engagement with voluntary sector partners (youth clubs, scouts, sports clubs, parish councils etc) to avoid duplication and maximize the effect of the available resources within each cluster.
4. Joined up approach to organizing transport within and between clusters.

What are the clusters?

Clusters	Villages
1	Laverstock, Ford & Old Sarum
2	Alderbury, Whaddon, West Grimstead, Clarendon
3	Coombe Bissett, Homington, Britford, Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham
4	Downton, Charlton All Saints, Redlynch, Lover, Morgan's Vale & Woodfalls
5	Firsdon, Winterslow (M,E,W), Lopcombe Corner, Pitton, Farley, East Grimstead, West Dean
6	Whiteparish, Landford, Nomansland

How the Youth Service would support this:

The role of the Youth Service will be to work with each village cluster to identify the needs, opportunities and aspirations for that cluster. The goal is to provide improved opportunities for our young people by drawing upon all the resource within the cluster to provide projects, clubs and activities in the area for years to come.

The Youth Service will offer support, advice and guidance to set up activities, clubs and projects where necessary. Once established they will offer ongoing support to these clubs or project groups as they develop. The Youth Service will also facilitate communication between clusters to share good practice and explore cross-cluster collaboration and joint projects.

The Youth Service will also continue to develop the YAG (Youth Advisory Group) for the Southern Wiltshire Community Area. The YAG will offer a chance for further cross-cluster collaboration.

To help illustrate what is proposed Tony will discuss a range of project opportunities with volunteers and/or parish councils within each cluster. In this way he will build up a picture of what each cluster would like to see provided. This is illustrated in the template below. The template is, of course, only illustrative at this stage. No doubt each cluster will contribute new project ideas – or, indeed, may not decide to participate at all.

	Clusters					
Illustrative project ideas	1	2	3	4	5	6
Establish a youth club in the cluster						
Joint transport to activities						
Intergenerational projects						
Links with local clubs and associations						
Community gardening projects						
Leisure Credits						
Youth club focussing on a specific issue or interest						
Etc.						
Etc						
Etc						

Proposal:

Tony will establish a working group, in liaison with the key contacts such as the Parish Councils, Youth Clubs and other groups in each cluster to identify what is already on offer and create a budgeted action plan for each cluster. Local funding and in-kind support will be important in making this work. Funding for projects delivered through voluntary sector groups will be available from the Area Board.

Recommendation:

1. That the Area Board adopts the above proposal.

Report Author: Tom Bray – Community Area Manager
Tel No: 01722 434252
E-Mail: tom.bray@wiltshire.gov.uk

