

Air Quality Working Group (AQWG)

Notes of the working group meeting: 10th September 2014

Attendees: Cllr Glenis Ansell (Wiltshire Council), Anne Henshaw (CCAP - Calne Area Transport), Sue Wallace (CCAP - Calne Environmental Network), Gary Mcomish, Rachel Kent (Wiltshire Council – Public Health Specialist), Jane Vaughan (Wiltshire Council - Calne Community Area Manager).

1. **Apologies:** Peter Nobes (Wiltshire Council – Environmental Health Officer), Charles Boase (Calne Town Council)

2. Calne Air Quality Action Plan

It was noted that the Calne Area Board had approved the Focus Points at its meeting on the 5th August 2014. The group discussed the need to now develop actions/projects to be promoted / implemented in the Community Area and to identify individuals to champion actions.

- **1. Promotional Campaign** (Branding and promotion of the issue and the group to the wider community area). The group noted that some work had already been done around this point with the School poster competition and the launch of a 'love calne – love clean air' campaign at the Air Quality themed Area Board meeting last year.

Rachel reported that she had met with the Wiltshire Council Design Team who will produce a logo/brand for all Air Quality Working groups across the County. These could be made more local by the inclusion of strap lines etc. The group were keen that they would be able to see and make comment on the designs before they are finalised. Rachel hoped that the final designs would be agreed by 13th November 2014, when the new Air Quality web site was to be launched.

The group decided that this focus point should be championed by the entire working group.

- **2. Travel to school**

The group discussed a number of initiatives that it was keen to move forward including 'Beat the Street' – where children swipe a smart card on their walk to school and accumulate reward points for their school; 'Walk to the Moon' a project/competition where children aim to compare their walk to school miles with a walk to the moon; 'WOW days' where children are encouraged to Walk on Wednesdays. The group

ACTIONS

All – champion the promotion of the air quality working group and the 'love calne – love clean air' campaign.

discussed the different initiatives and decided that the first step should be to link with one enthusiastic school to pilot a project. It was felt that the most enthusiastic school so far had been Fynamore, who had previously embraced the campaign wholeheartedly. Therefore Glenis and Jane would try and meet with the head teacher at Fynamore to discuss potential projects. At the same time letters would be sent to all of the other schools in the Community Area to find out where else interest lies.

Once a potential project has been identified a plan and potential costings will be developed.

- **3. Encouraging/enabling cycling**

‘Bobbies on Bicycles’: Glenis reported that she had been in contact with the local neighbourhood police team and had identified a potential project which would involve providing the local PCSOs with bicycles to use around the Community Area. Sgt Huggins had expressed an interest in becoming involved in such a project and felt that, although it would not be a statutory part of the police role, that PCSOs could also become engaged in bike stamping sessions at area boards/local events to further encourage people and promote the benefits of cycling. The group felt that this had the potential to achieve positive and high profile results and decided that Jane would undertake further discussions with Sgt Huggins and Glenis would take a proposal to the Area Board as a Councillor initiative requesting that funding is made available. If approved, this would be an Area Board working group project.

- **4. Encouraging/enabling walking**

The group discussed the various community and Wiltshire Council organised guided walks and walking groups already in existence and noted that it would be useful to create a pamphlet – website that could form a single point of information on all of these groups/walks. It was suggested that something similar may have already been done in Trowbridge and was also noted that Wiltshire Council has a Community Walking co-ordinator, who may be able to provide some support/advice/assistance. Sue volunteered to champion this piece of work; she would gather together some ideas information and report back to the next meeting.

- **5. Tree Planting schemes** (in light of recent evidence from Lancaster University regarding impact of roadside tree lines, particularly birch, upon concentrations of traffic derived particulate matter).

GA/JV contact Fynamore school and write to all schools in the Community Area.

JV hold further discussions with Sgt Huggins re. costing of this project and provide info to GA.

GA report to Area Board and propose this be approved as a working group project.

SW find further information/ideas for the next meeting.

The group were keen to advance this action as a group.

Jane had held discussions with the Town Clerk about the idea of planting silver birch trees in or close to areas highlighted as hot spots in the Air Quality Management Area; Sue had also raised the issue at the Town's Britain in Bloom meetings. They both reported positive responses from the Town Council. Gary highlighted the need to ensure that any schemes should take into account the position of CCTV cameras in the town. The group also discussed the idea that Hills might be asked to get involved in planting trees around their site at Lower Compton. Glenis would contact Hills Waste to discuss this.

Rachel had found details of some similar schemes that were being planned in Salisbury and Jane would email information about this to the group.

Glenis and Jane would start working up a proposal to take to the Area Board for funding based upon the Salisbury scheme and Jane would circulate details to the rest of the group.

GA contact
Monique Hayes
at Hills Waste.

JV/GA work up
proposal for the
Area Board.

3. Launch of the Wiltshire Air Quality web site:

Rachel explained that on the on the 13th November there would be a formal launch of the air quality website (linked to the real time air quality monitors) and the 'Know and Respond' service (a text/email service which sends out health messages if air quality is poor) and probably the Air Quality Action Plan.

As part of this launch some of the community action plan groups would be asked to do a short presentation of what they had/were doing with regards to air quality in their town – probably Bradford, Devizes and Salisbury as they were further advanced than Calne). A get together had been requested a number of times so this would provide the ideal forum for exchanging ideas between the groups. It was also hoped that a business meeting would take place after the launch 4 reps from each community group so that they could have a chance to discuss 'what works well, what doesn't work well' aspects of the groups and potential joint work.

Following the launch the groups will need to help to promote the website.

Jane was asked to send the contact details of the group to Rachel.

JV send contacts
to Rachel Kent

4. Update on Particulate Monitor:

Rachel explained that we were still waiting for the return of the particulate monitor due to be located in Calne. It was still being used to monitor the fire at a Waste site in Swindon.

Once this emergency had passed the monitor would come to Calne. Peter Nobes had identified a lamp post where it could be

RK send details of
lamppost location
to Glenis Ansell.

located, but was concerned that this should be discussed with the Town Council before it was implemented. Rachel would send details to Glenis to discuss with the Town Clerk.

- 5. Next meeting** - Jane was asked to arrange the next meeting for 6pm on 6th November 2014 at the Community Hub.

JV arrange meeting

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE AREA BOARD:

- To note the actions and discussions of the meeting of the Calne Air Quality Working Group.
- To consider a Councillor initiative to fund an Area Board Air Quality working group project 'Bobbies on Bicycles' that will promote cycling in the Calne community area.

Notes of this meeting were taken by Jane Vaughan.