

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Whiteparish Memorial Hall, Common Rd, Whiteparish SP5 2SU  
**Date:** 26 March 2015  
**Start Time:** 7.00 pm  
**Finish Time:** 9.30 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Christopher Devine (Vice-Chair), Cllr Julian Johnson,  
Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Leo Randall

Cllr John Thomson – Item 8

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Karen Linaker, Southern Wiltshire Community Area Manager  
Lisa Moore, Democratic Services Officer  
Tracy Carter, Associate Director - Waste and Environment  
Emma Drage, Community Youth Officer

### **Town and Parish Councillors**

Alderbury Parish Council – E Hartford & A McGowan  
Britford Parish Council – M Hitchings  
Coombe Bissett Parish Council – G Bundy & D James  
Downton Parish Council – B Cornish, S Lacey, D Mace, J Whitmarsh & R Yeates  
Firsdawn Parish Council – M Bishop, S Brown, B Edgeley  
Grimstead Parish Council – A Ferguson  
Landford Parish Council – J Martin  
Pitton and Farley Parish Council – R Coppock & C Purves  
Redlynch Parish Council – J Blockside  
West Dean Parish Council – J Greene & H Urquhart  
Whiteparish Parish Council – M Hayday, T King, M Pennington & L Palmer

Winterslow Parish Council – D Pearce, A Sillence & J Tier

**Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector David Minty

Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service – Mike Franklin

Local Youth Network – Michelle Poole (Old Sarum Youth)

**Total in attendance: 43**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman, Councillor Richard Britton welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Southern Wiltshire Area Board.</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>There were none.</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 29 January 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>
4	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Item 9 – Highways Services – Balfour Beatty and Wiltshire Transport Team. For information Councillor Britton declared that he held shares in Balfour Beatty, as this item was an information item only this did not constitute a pecuniary interest.</p>
5	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>There were none.</p>
6	<p><u>Report on issues facing the community as a whole</u></p> <p><u>Police – Inspector David Minty</u> The overall figures were pleasing. Victim based crime was down 20% but violence against the person was up 12%, so work was underway to bring that figures down.</p> <p>During a recent operation called Midas, forces in different areas joined together to work with local farmers to catch people poaching and stealing from farms and across rural areas. Thirty vehicles were stopped and three poachers were removed from the county.</p> <p><u>Fire – Cllr Chris Devine</u> The proposals for a combined Fire Service with Dorset had now been through Parliament and signed off. It was hoped that by 1 April 2016 the combined services would be functioning as a single Fire and Rescue Service for Wiltshire and Dorset. A new Chief Fire Officer had been appointed, this was Darren Gunter.</p> <p><u>WFRS - Mike Franklin</u></p>

On 12 March there had been a significant fire in Redlynch. 19 Fire vehicles, including some from across the border attended the scene. Mike urged anyone with a thatched roofed property to have a home safety check carried out.

Questions and comments:

- John Martin, Landford PC – We were all aware of the fire in Redlych, the Wiltshire Fire Service was supported by engines from Romsey. Would the current arrangements with the Hampshire Fire Service continue once the combination was in effect? Answer: Yes all arrangements would remain the same.

Wiltshire Council Updates – Universal Credit

The Board noted the written update attached to the agenda.

Wiltshire Council – Delivering a Legacy for Wiltshire

Karen Linaker, Community Area Manager gave information on the proposals for an event scheduled to celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta. The event would take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm and would include a pageant and a parade from the market place to the Salisbury Cathedral.

Local representatives from arts and crafts groups would be sought in the Southern Wiltshire community area to work together on decorating a wooden baron which would then be part of the parade.

Southern Wiltshire Issues System

The Board noted the report attached to the agenda. Issues continued to come in, the majority of them were Highways and CATG themed issued.

Comments and questions:

- Cllr Randall noted that there was an issue at Stock Lane in Landford Wood, where the narrow road goes round in a loop. The parish council had initially objected to its inclusion in the 40mph limit but were told that nothing could be changed. Local residents would like the 40mph limit to be removed.  
Cllr John Thomson advised the Board to take the issue to the CATG who could then consider a sensible scheme to resolve the issue.  
Answer: Cllr McLennan felt that the CATG budget for Southern Wilts should not be affected by any scheme to rectify the issue arising from the implementation of a 40mph speed limit.

**Action: Area Board to ask Cabinet member to review and reverse the decision relating to the 40mph Stock Lane issue.**

Other comments or reports:

- The Parish Clerks Liaison Meeting in February was well attended and

	<p>useful. Another meeting was planned for August.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It had been advertised in the Salisbury Journal that the rubbish tip in Salisbury would be closed for 2 days each week and that opening hours would be altered, to make £300,000 of savings. There had been no consultation on the decision to charge £40 for a green waste service. Which two days would the tip be closing and how would the new hours be published? <u>Answer:</u> Tracey Carter, Associate Director for Waste and Environment explained that there was a proposal to review the opening hours of household recycling centres. Proposals were being worked on with Hills at present. Information on the current footfall at the centres was available and would be used in the decision making of which days it would be best to close the facilities. There would be at least one site (out of the four in the county) open on any particular day. The decision to charge £40 for green waste collection was one of the proposals considered as part of the Budget process. The proposed decision would be published for all to see.</li> <li>• The litter along the A36 was an absolute disgrace, and not good for welcoming tourists for the Magna Carta event. <u>Answer:</u> Adrian Hampton, Head of Local Highways and Streetscene South, explained that the Highways Agency used to litter pick when cutting the grass verges, as this was now carried out by Balfour Beatty. Hopefully this task would commence in the next couple of weeks.</li> </ul>
7	<p><u>Parish Showcase</u></p> <p>Chairman of Alderbury Parish Council, Elaine Hartford gave an overview of what it was like to live in Alderbury.</p> <p>There were many activities and clubs in the village, including a monthly film club, keep fit and arts groups and a coffee shop. The recreation ground had a range of facilities for young people, but also catered for people of all ages with the four pieces of outdoor gym equipment and outdoor table tennis.</p> <p>Alderbury was one of the first villages in Wiltshire to have superfast Broadband installed. Community Speedwatch and Neighbourhood watch were both also in operation in the area.</p> <p>Ten bus stops had been adopted by the parish, which had been added to the asset register. A new footpath had been created between West Grimstead and Whaddon.</p> <p>The parish was working with the Community Youth Officer, Emma Drage to set up a Local Youth Network (LYN).</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Elaine for the presentation. He added that the footpath had been included in the parish plan years ago as something residents would like. It had taken some years to realise and it demonstrated how things could be achieved with commitment and perseverance.</p>

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Broadband Update

The Board received an update on the roll out of superfast broadband in the community area so far, and the schedule for the remaining work.

Councillor John Thomson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband and Ian Baker, Head of the Programme Office were accompanied by Paul Coles – SW Regional Partnership Director and Matt Lloyd, NGA Programme Manager from BT for this item.

<b>Exchange Area</b>	<b>Communities Supported</b>	<b>Current Position</b>	<b>Future Work</b>
<b>Alderbury</b>	Alderbury, Whaddon and West Grimstead.	4 X cabinets already live bringing fibre broadband to over 1000 homes and businesses in Alderbury.	Alderbury cab 3 serving West Grimstead has current power issues and the work is ongoing.
<b>Coombe Bisset</b>	Coombe Bissett and Homington.	2 x cabinets already live with 1 additional cab by end of April.	1 X EO cabinets to be surveyed and installed.
<b>Downton</b>	Downton, Redlynch, North Charford, Wick and Lover.	11 x cabinets already live providing a fibre service to over 2000 homes and businesses.	1 x cabinets in build serving Downton. 1 X EO cabinets serving EO lines in Downton is in build.
<b>Earldoms</b>	Landford		2 x EO CAB serving Landford to be surveyed and installed.
<b>Farley</b>	Farley, Pitton and East Grimstead.	3 x cabinets already live providing a fibre service to over 400 homes and businesses.	Work is complete in this exchange area.

<b>Salisbury</b>	Salisbury, Laverstock, Odstock and Britford.	20 x cabinets already live serving homes and businesses in Salisbury, Laverstock and Odstock.	1 x cabinet serving Britford in build stage. 1 x cabinet serving Salisbury in build stage. 1 x EO cab in survey stage.
<b>Winterslow</b>	Winterslow, West Winterslow, Middle Winterslow and Firsdown.	3 x cabinets already live serving 800 premises in Winterslow, West Winterslow and Middle Winterslow.	Additional work to serve Firsdown in survey stage.
<b>Whiteparish</b>	Whiteparish.	2 x cabinets already live serving 296 premises.	1 x cabinets in build. 1 x EO solution in build.
<b>Hampshire</b>	West Dean.	Re-planning using existing ducting.	1 x EO solution to move to survey stage.

There were 9,000 homes within the Southern Wiltshire community area, which would receive access to superfast broadband (SFBB) once works were complete. So far provision to 6,000 of those home had been carried out.

There had been a number of challenges to overcome along the way, to enable BT to get fibre optic out to houses in some areas, but in other areas there had been significant success.

Four new structures would be going live in Alderbury which would see 1,000 houses provided with SFBB.

Further information was available on the website, including a postcode checker and by April 2015, the facility to enter your email address to receive updates would be available.

Questions and comments included:

- You have made a lot of excuses, surely these issues were considered when entering in to a contract with Wiltshire Council? Answer: The engineering challenges were all genuine.

- You say that 90% of premises would have coverage by 2016, and 95% by 2017, which area would be covered the phase 2 ? Answer: We are in the process of going through phase 2 coverage for 2017 at present.
- The postcode checker service was a waste of time, it says postcode not in area, we may get to you in time.
- We believe that there was never any intention to install a cabinet at East Grimstead, all that is needed is one cabinet in the centre of the village to serve everyone. Answer: Works at the Farley exchange had been completed with the funding available, and a significant number of homes would benefit, however the level of coverage would depend on the distance you are from your server.
- Several small businesses located between East and West Grimstead were misled, as we were given the impression by BT that we would achieve 20mbs, so did not sign up to the offer made by Gigaclear; a competitor. Then our date for connection disappeared from the schedule completely. There was no mention at the time that people further away from Farley would not be able to receive the faster connection speed. Why was nothing said at the time? Answer: In phase 1 of the roll out, only a certain amount of coverage would be achieved with the funding available. When further funding available we hoped to achieve more. We were clear all along that we would not be able to provide 100% coverage. We did hold back on our project for 6 months to allow Gigaclear time to gain customers, they asked us to hold back for a further 6 months, which we could not do. They pulled out as a result of not having enough signatures.
- In some areas which you said would receive 1.5gb they are now only receiving 1gb, this project was not being managed very well. Answer: The budget was not overspent, but was in fact very much on target. Any under spent funds could be put back into extending services. If speeds were not achieved, then BT did not get paid. The Government was beginning to realise that this had been a klunky process, and had started to bring in other funding for further phases.
- Other technology was available which may be an alternative option in some areas not yet receiving the connections they desired. We are able to put people in touch with manufactures for a trial. Information could be supplied to the CAM for those interested in looking in to that further.
- The residents at Laverstock and Ford were served by Salisbury, so provision was ok there, however, only two thirds of the new homes at Old Sarum were connected, the other third on the estate had been completely missed off the plans. We had found it impossible to get BT to get the other third of homes added to the plan. Answer: We will take that issue away, and ask that the details of this are forwarded to us.

**Action: CAM/Cllr McLennan to forward details of the Old Sarum estate to BT.**

The Chairman suggested that the way forward was to arrange a meeting with



	<p>residents to discuss solutions. Cllr Thomson added that he would be happy to attend a meeting with residents and BT to discuss the way forward.</p>
9	<p><u>Highways Service - Balfour Beatty and Wiltshire Transport Team</u></p> <p>Adrian Hampton, Head of Local Highways, Weather, and Streetscene – South provided information on the management of reactive maintenance work: ticket submission, prioritisation, scheduling and communication.</p> <p>There had been quite a lot of change over the last 18 months, following the Government Reduction in grants and increase in demand on key services. This had impacted on Highway expenditure and a reduction in back office staff.</p> <p>Reactive Service Services - Local Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pot Holes</li> <li>• Signage</li> <li>• Street Name Plates</li> <li>• Graffiti Removal</li> <li>• Gulley Emptying</li> <li>• Litter Collection</li> <li>• Fly Posting Removal</li> <li>• Shopping Trolley Removal</li> <li>• Dead Animal Removal</li> <li>• Any Highway Defect Repair</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/mywiltshirelogin.htm">People could now report issues via the 'My Wiltshire' web page or use the app via a mobile phone. Link: <u>http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/mywiltshirelogin.htm</u></a></p> <p>A meeting for Town and Parish Council's had been scheduled for 28 April 2015, at City Hall Salisbury, which would talk in a lot more detail about the services available and how to log issues in the parish.</p> <p>Questions and comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was great frustration when using the online 'My Wiltshire' app as once you had submitted an issue, you did not get any feedback on the progress. <u>Answer:</u> We were currently looking at different software, as we are struggling with the current system,</li> <li>• There had been an increase in fly tipping, the response was inadequate. <u>Answer:</u> Littering was up 20% nationally. It was clear that some people would rather fly tip than take their waste to a recycling centre.</li> <li>• Cllr Johnson noted that it was most frustrating that the Ward Cllrs were not being kept in the loop and therefore could not advise their communities of planned work. <u>Answer:</u> When I have a solution I will be back.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a lot of litter on the 'A' class roads, the Council had a responsibility to clear this. <u>Answer:</u> We had always had the responsibility for collecting litter, but money had become tight and we must make the best use of our services. When the verge cutting was carried out this time, no litter picking was done beforehand. If the community undertook the litter picking themselves, that would be good for the community, but if not then we will do it, but we must prioritise our work.</li> <li>• Are we getting good value from our contractors, as it seemed that some things were not getting done? <u>Answer:</u> In Local Highways, £6 million was spent, £140,000 on maintaining play areas. The price for grass cutting per m<sup>2</sup> was providing value for money.</li> <li>• Were all of the gullies being cleared in the contracted year? <u>Answer:</u> the contracted year runs from 1 June to 31 May, all gullies must be cleared in that year. Sometimes during flooding, we pull them off the schedule to go and sort out areas in trouble. We will empty a gull in an emergency, if there was risk to road safety or flooding to a house.</li> <li>• Cllr Thomson added that where work was not up to standard or failed, that was down to the contractor to re-do at their cost. Parishes were urged to report such incidents to Highways Coordinator.</li> </ul>
10	<p><u>Community Messaging</u></p> <p>Due to the previous items running over, this item was postponed until a future meeting.</p>
11	<p><u>Local Youth Network (LYN) Update</u></p> <p>Due to the previous items running over, this item was postponed until a future meeting.</p>
12	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG) Update</u></p>

The Board report from the last CATG meeting and considered the recommendations for funding from the CATG budget for 2014/15.

**Decision**

**Southern Wiltshire Area Board approved the CATG recommendations for funding as detailed below:**

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>CATG</b>	<b>PC</b>
Footpath linking Mediaeval Bridge to Milford House Nursing Home, Laverstock	£1,200 <i>(additional to £5,800 previously agreed)</i>	£2,500
Pitton & Farley – No Through Road Sign request for Farley Farm Rd	£100	
Odstock – traffic calming measures: new surfacing and larger speed signs and repeater signs.	£5,000	£1,000 (tbc)
West Grimstead (by recreation field) – request for new informal crossing, due to absence of footpath, volume and nature of traffic	£1,000	£200
Old Sarum – New Community Centre directional signs	£200	
Britford, The Lanes (off of A338) – request for sign saying “No Through Route” to deter traffic from using as a rat run	£100	
Coombe Bissett Village – new 20mph speed limit scheme	£4,000	£1,500
Whiteparish, Common Road from the Riding School to the A27 – new 20mph speed limit scheme	£2,300	£1,000
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>£13,900</u></b>	<b><u>£6,200</u></b>

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**Community Awards for 2014/15**

This was the second year that the Southern Wiltshire Area Board had run th

	<p>Community Award scheme. It was a way of recognising the really important contribution to community life made by groups and individuals across our area.</p> <p>Nominations had been requested for individuals, projects and groups which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• could demonstrate real, tangible community benefit</li> <li>• brought people together to give up their time for the local community</li> <li>• had achieved particular success</li> </ul> <p>Individuals would receive awards of £50; groups/projects would receive £200.</p> <p>The Board considered the nominations for Individual and Group Community Awards as detailed in the report attached to the agenda.</p> <p>There had been 13 individuals and groups nominated, all of whom had performed services for their communities, which the Board would like to recognise.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Southern Wiltshire Area Board awarded 13 Individual awards of £50 each, and 2 Groups awarded of £200 each as detailed in the report.</b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone who had been involved with the project.</p>
14	<p><b><u>Community Area Grants</u></b></p> <p>The Board considered 3 applications for funding from the Community Area Grant Scheme for 2014/15, as detailed in the report attached to the agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Winterslow Cricket Club was awarded £995 for a new mobile cricket cage.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2014/15.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Pitton &amp; Farley Parish Council was awarded £1,309 for two map lecterns to guide visitors to footpaths and other local features.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2014/15.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Landford Parish Council was awarded £4,724.22 for new teenage play equipment at the recreation ground.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2014/15.</i></b></p>

	<p>The Chairman noted that some of the funding for the grants awarded as above would come from the 2015/16, as there was not enough in this year's budget.</p>
15	<p><u>End of Term Report</u></p> <p>As this was the final meeting of the 2014/15 municipal year the chairman made a brief report on the year just finishing, as attached to the agenda.</p> <p>Just short of £72,500 had been allocated in Area Board funding during 2014/15, on 34 schemes across 13 parishes. These relatively small amounts mean so much to these parishes.</p>
16	<p><u>Close</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.</p>

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