

## **BA13+ REPORT to WESTBURY AREA BOARD**

On behalf of the communities of Bratton, Coulston, Dilton Marsh, Edington, Heywood and of course Westbury itself, the BA13+ Community Area Partnership seeks to:

- ¶ **Help the local community articulate their aspirations, needs and priorities**
- ¶ **Work together with residents, councils, businesses, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to achieve these aims**
- ¶ **Work with partners on projects to make real and sustainable changes to life in and around Westbury**
- ¶ **Contribute to the effective protection of Westbury's natural and heritage environment**
- ¶ **Reflect local concerns and ideas by tackling them in the Community Plan**

**We are planning to extend the Community Plan beyond 2017 in the next year and would VERY much like to hear from individuals, groups, and volunteers with an interest in any of the above themes.** Please contact Phil McMullen, the BA13+ Administrator, for further information. His email address is [ba13plus@outlook.com](mailto:ba13plus@outlook.com)

The most recent BA13+ Community Area Partnership meeting was held on Thursday 19th May 2016 in the Laverton in Westbury. The theme was **Health and Wellbeing**, and our guest speaker was **Sarah MacLennan** from the West Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Sarah presented some very sobering facts. Annual funding is less than what's needed to meet demand. Here in Wiltshire we face three hospitals – the Great Western in Swindon, Salisbury District and the Royal United Hospitals in Bath and North East Somerset (BANES). For the next year, to 2017, Wiltshire, BANES and Swindon are facing a funding gap of £500 million.

The cost of treatments is getting higher because we are keeping people well for longer with multiple conditions. We also have a growing population, 22% of which are over 65. There is a national shortage of trained professionals across health and social care including GPs, but it's particularly acute here in Wiltshire. There is a reliance on locums and agency workers. Demand is far outstripping capacity.

Sarah summarised by saying that in her opinion Westbury has one of THE most forward thinking practices in Wiltshire. They have tremendous potential. They are trying to use the money to stop people going to hospital to try and make the White Horse Centre a thriving hub of community expertise. Sarah was warmly thanked for her presentation by a large and appreciative audience from across the community area.

The next Partnership Meeting is to be held on August 18th 2016 - this is to be our Annual General Meeting. The theme this time will be **Leisure and Recreation**. The meeting will be held at the Leighton Recreation Centre and will start at 7pm, with refreshments from 6.45. We are particularly pleased to announce that our keynote presentation will be by Peter Wragg, the Chairman of **Visit Wiltshire** who are the strategic body responsible for Wiltshire's visitor economy development and marketing. Mr. Wragg also represents the visitor economy on the Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

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