

MINUTES

Meeting: Calne Area Board
Place: Calne Hub and Library, The Strand, Calne SN11 0JU
Date: 10 September 2024
Start Time: 6.30 pm
Finish Time: 8.14 pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney (Chairman), Cllr Ian Thorn (Vice-Chairman),
Cllr Robert MacNaughton, Cllr Ashley O'Neill and Cllr Tom Rounds

Wiltshire Council Officers

Ros Griffiths – Strategic Engagement and Partnership Manager
Alexa Davies – Engagement and Partnerships Lead
Dominic Argar – Assistant Multimedia Officer
Matt Hitch – Democratic Services Officer

Total in attendance: 17

| <u>Minute No..</u> | <u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u> |
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| 34 | <p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman was pleased to announce that Alexa Davies, the Area Board's former Community Engagement Manager, had been appointed as their new Engagement and Partnerships Lead (EPL). He welcomed the EPL to her new role and stated that the Area Board was looking forward to working with her.</p> |
| 35 | <p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were no apologies for absence.</p> |
| 36 | <p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr Robert MacNaughton, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2024 as a true and correct record.</p> |
| 37 | <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>The Vice-Chairman declared an Other Registerable Interest (ORI) in relation to grant application ABG1942 as he was a trustee of Wiltshire Music Centre. As set out in the Code of Conduct, the Vice-Chairman made a statement as a member of public and remained for discussion. He did not take part in the vote on the item.</p> <p>The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Tom Rounds and Cllr Robert MacNaughton declared Non-Registerable Interests in relation to application ABG196. Calne Football Club rented their clubhouse from Calne Town Council, of which they were all members. It was noted that Wiltshire Council's Code of Conduct granted a standing dispensation for members of town councils to participate in the debate about and vote on their applications.</p> <p>For transparency, Cllr MacNaughton made a further declaration that he had once received a scarf from Calne Football Club. This was not a substantive personal gain and would have no influence on his decision making.</p> |
| 38 | <p><u>Chairman's Updates</u></p> <p>Cllr Tom Rounds reported that Patrick Kaberia, a tea producer from Michimikuru in Kenya, had given an engaging and interesting talk the previous evening about fairtrade. Mr Kaberia had spoken powerfully about the impact that the scheme</p> |

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| | <p>had had in improving his village, particularly educational provision. 100 young people from his community had been able to attend university in Nairobi thanks to funding bought in through fairtrade.</p> <p>The Chairman took the opportunity to highlight that there was now a photograph of Calne available for use by Wiltshire Council staff as a background image during Microsoft Teams meetings. He thanked the Area Board's Assistant Multimedia Officer, Dom Argar, for taking the photo.</p> <p>Thanks were also given to people that had decorated a pig for Calne Pig Parade. The Chairman explained that 50 of the pig sculptures would be on display at Calne Music and Arts Festival, between 4 and 13 October, to celebrate 50 years of the festival.</p> <p>It was highlighted by the Chairman that Wiltshire Council had worked with local charities including Calne Wordfest, Calne Men's Shed, Calne Lions and Calne Pocket Park to create an app to swap books. He encouraged attendees to download the app and scan the QR code on one of the book swap boxes that were available at Hastings Drive, Calne Pocket Park, Tench Road, Kingston House, Derry Hill or Little Buddies in Lower Compton.</p> <p>In addition, the Chairman reminded the Area Board that the government's consultation about changes to the National Planning Policy Framework was open until 11:45pm on 24 September.</p> |
| 39 | <p><u>Information Items</u></p> <p>The Chairman drew attention to the following updates included in the agenda pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FACT Family Help Project, pg.15-16 • FACT Transitional Safeguarding, pg.17-18 • Wiltshire Youth Council, pg.19-20 • Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Consultation - open until Friday 4 October, pg.21-22 |
| 40 | <p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p>Written updates were available in the agenda pack from the following partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community First (including useful information for parent carers), pg.23-30 • BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire Together – Integrated Care Board, pg.31-33 • Hilmarton Parish Council, pg.35 • Calne Without Parish Council, pg.37 • Calne Town Council, pg.39-40 • S106 Working Group, pg.41-42 • Wiltshire Neighbourhood Police Team, pg.43-51 |

- Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership, **pg.53-63**

The Chairman highlighted that a link to Healthwatch Wiltshire's Annual Report could be accessed [online](#). He also drew attention to the update from the Integrated Care Board with news about approved funding for a new primary care facility in Hindon. The proposed facility in Hindon was the first of several projects in their Primary Estate Care Plan that they were looking to secure funding for.

The following partners also provided verbal updates:

Wiltshire Police

Seargent Mike Tripp gave an update on behalf of the Neighbourhood Police Team. Points included:

- Thanks were given to Police Constable Jon Bourke for his contribution to the Neighbourhood Team over the past two years. Police Constable Bourke had now joined the Criminal Investigations Department.
- Police Constable Nick Dorey had joined the Neighbourhood Team and was already making a valuable contribution.
- The Neighbourhood Team had attended 100 public engagements since the last Area Board meeting, including completing a week of events in rural areas.
- Chief Constable Catherine Roper had had an enjoyable visit to Calne Men's Shed.
- There had recently been three arrests in Calne connected to drug related offences.
- Three arrests had been made in connection with damage to vehicles in Calne the previous week.
- Owners of keyless cars were encouraged to be vigilant and purchase faraday pouches to block the signal from their fobs.
- A business week was due to be held in September to help tackle aggression against retailers.
- Recent [reports](#) from His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services had found that the performance of Wiltshire Police had improved.

Cllr Ashley O'Neill arrived at 6:41pm after being delayed by inclement weather.

During the discussion, the following points were made:

- In response to a question about why levels of recorded crime between 1 June 2024 and 31 August 2024 were higher than the corresponding period the previous year, Seargent Tripp explained that overall crime was lower than the previous year and that levels of antisocial behaviour

tended to be higher during the summer.

- The approximate location that crimes were committed were made available [online](#). There were no specific hotspot areas that had seen increases in crime.
- Seargent Tripp was cautiously optimistic about the increase in the reporting of crime, seeing it as a positive that more people were coming forward.
- Isabel McCord, from Bremhill Parish Council, thanked the police for attending an engagement event in her parish and requested that they work with her parish clerk to hold a similar event in Foxham.
- The Vice-Chairman noted that he would welcome statistics about the number of prosecutions alongside the figures for the number of recorded crimes. Seargent Tripp said he would raise the issue with Inspector Pete Foster and check whether that information could be provided.
- The Vice-Chairman was pleased to announce that he had become a member of Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel.

Older People's and Carer's Champion

The Older People's and Carer's Champion, Diane Gooch, gave an update. Key points included:

- Of the 44 pensioners that had attended the most recent meeting of Calne Reconnecting Group, only three were aware of pension credit. Help was provided to some individuals that might have been eligible to apply.
- More could be done to raise awareness about eligibility for pension credit including potentially through Calne Connections.
- Calne Reconnecting Group appreciated visits from local councillors and were due to receive a presentation from Wiltshire Council's Highways Team.
- The Older People's and Carer's Champion had been giving feedback to Carers Together Wiltshire. Carers Together Wiltshire had been trying to improve access to Carer ID cards, enabling carers to access benefits, offers and services.
- Feedback provided by care teams was that the preferred activities to be in the afternoon and were keen to hold accessible walks on a regular basis.
- The Voices and Demetia Forum had received Safe Spaces and were planning to produce a brochure with information about support for people with dementia and their carers. Information had also been provided about Rethink Mental Illness Wiltshire, Alzheimer's Support and death doulas.
- Calne and Bradford on Avon had been identified as examples of good practice in Wiltshire's new Dementia Strategy.

During the discussion, the Area Board thanked Diane and her team for all of their valuable work supporting older and vulnerable people. The Vice-Chairman queried whether it would be possible to promote uptake in pension credit through Wiltshire Council's communications infrastructure. The Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Manager, Ros Griffiths, explained that work was being done to produce an Area Board information leaflet for residents and she would work closely with the Older People's and Carer's Champion.

Calne Parish Forum

Cllr O'Neill reported that the Parish Forum had held a well-attended meeting in the Mayor's Parlour. Topics discussed included, fairtrade, how parishes could be encouraged to set up Emergency Contact Hubs and the impact of proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. The Parish Forum planned to hold their next meeting in November.

Calne Town Council

Celia Stevens from Calne Town Council gave a brief update, including:

- A community quilt, created to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Joseph Priestley discovering oxygen in Calne, was on display in Calne Library.
- Calne Town Council's hardship fund had awarded money to four people in need.
- There were a range of views about plans to reopen Calne High Street to traffic, but a constructive meeting had been held to achieve the best outcome for residents.
- New equipment had been procured for the Recreation Ground.
- Calne Town Council were working alongside the Rise Trust to provide a youth space and recently visited a youth shelter in Thornbury to explore what might be possible.
- They were encouraging businesses to sign up to an A-to-Z catalogue.
- The Neighbourhood Plan, including Calne Without, was still at consultation phase.
- Calne Pig Parade had captured imaginations around the town and over 500 'pigs' had been purchased for decoration. The parade would take place on the first day of Calne Music and Arts Festival on 4 October.

Calne Without Parish Council

John Barnes from Calne Without Parish Council provided an update. Points included:

- The speed limit reduction on the A4 at Studley Crossroads, due to be implemented on 14 October, was welcomed. Calne Without Parish Council had recommended that more extensive reductions were imposed

but saw the steps being taken as good progress.

- Calne Without Parish Council wanted to reiterate concerns about road safety on the A4 and welcomed the work being done by Police Community Support Officer Mark Cook to tackle speeding.
- There had been a serious road traffic collision on the night of 21/22 June near Derry Hill. Luckily there were no serious injuries, but the incident was very close to the site of a tragic accident in 2020 where four young men were killed in a road accident.
- A public consultation about different options for installing play equipment in Derry Hill was underway.
- A grant application had been submitted to Wiltshire Council to fund a small community orchard in Studley. There were also plans to install a bicycle rack in the village.
- Calne Without Parish Council would welcome an update about plans to reinstate the footpath along the A4 towards Yatesbury.

During the discussion, Cllr O'Neill reported that he had requested updates from Wiltshire Council officers about plans to reinstate the footpath to Yatesbury. He had been informed the previous month that work was due to start imminently, so he would seek clarification about the schedule. He noted that the work to reinstate the footpath to the west of Calne had been very successful.

Cllr Robert MacNaughton sought an update on proposals for two bus shelters near the Alexandra Gate development under construction at Chilvester Hill and asked whether a zebra crossing would be installed. John Barnes explained that a decision was due to be taken by Calne Without Parish Council the following month, although expressed disappointment that the developer had not been required to fund the shelters. He raised concerns about the access arrangements to the new development and explained that the issue of a crossing could be discussed at a future meeting of the Local Highway and Footway improvement Group.

Cllr Tom Rounds highlighted that Calne Town Council's Amenities and Facilities Committee had approved the request to adopt a new shelter proposed for Chilvester Hill from 2025, as long as the area was transferred to its jurisdiction after the forthcoming elections.

Seargent Mike Tripp explained that Wiltshire Police were monitoring speed along the A4 after dark where it was safe to do so. They had been heavily involved in the response to the recent road traffic collision and were working closely with schools to improve speed awareness.

Bremhill Parish Council

Isabel McCord, Chairman of Bremhill Parish Council, provided an update on their behalf. Details are available in the notes attached to these minutes.

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| 41 | <p><u>Calne's Big Get Together - Saturday 14 September</u></p> <p>Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Manager (SEPM), Ros Griffiths, gave an overview of the events planned for 14 September. She explained that around 30 different groups would be represented, with a focus on health, wellbeing and improving social isolation. There would be events for people of all ages, from walking netball to Zumba and the coach of Paralympian Suzanna Hext was also expected to attend. Calne Town Council had helped to organise free travel for on the 40A and 40C busses and would extend parking times in the nearby Church Street Car Park. As well as providing an overview of the arrangements, the SEPM gave thanks to Diane Gooch and other volunteers for organising the event.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that he was looking forward to the event, but expressed regret that he would be unable to participate in the rowing and cycling as he was running a half marathon the following day.</p> |
| 42 | <p><u>Area Board Priorities and the Community Area Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (CAJSNA)</u></p> <p>The Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Manager (SEPM), Ros Griffiths, gave an overview of the Community Area Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (CAJSNA) in order to help the Area Board identify their priority goals for the forthcoming year. She reminded the Area Board that they had deferred consideration of the priority goals at the previous meeting to allow more time to consider the CAJSNA data. The data showed 140 different indicators spread across 10 different topics. She reported that 149 people in the community area had taken part in the consultation and had been asked to identify the topics they considered to be their greatest priority. The five most popular priorities selected by the public were health, the environment, the cost of living, safety and older people.</p> <p>The Area Board then watched a video about the CAJSNA by Wiltshire Council's Director of Public Health, Professor Kate Blackburn.</p> <p>During the discussion, points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Area Board thanked the SEPM for her presentation. • It was noted that, although the majority of respondents to the survey tended to be from older age groups, older people were only the fifth highest priority identified. • It was suggested that health could be included in the title of one of the Area Board's priority areas, given that it was the highest priority identified in the consultation and that the Area Board were keen to use their influence to support a new medical practice in Calne. • The importance of setting achievable goals that aligned with the resources available to the Area Board was highlighted. • Cllr Tom Rounds observed that Calne Town Council had a high precept |

and that this might have been a contributory factor to cost of living pressures, such as the high number of children eligible for free school meals in Calne.

- It was debated whether the title of the Area Board's existing priority of addressing climate change could be expanded to encompass wider environmental issues.
- The SEPM noted that an Area Board was unable to have more than five priority areas.
- The possibility of including health as an issue cutting across all of the priorities was discussed but the Area Board felt that including health within the title of an existing priority was preferable to ensure that it was given greater prominence.
- The Area Board's Older Person's and Carer's Champion, Dianne Gooch, said that she would welcome more information about when Calne would get a Neighbourhood Collaborative.

Cllr Ashley O'Neill left the meeting at 7:50pm, so did not participate in the votes on the priority areas.

On the proposal of Cllr Rounds, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:

Decision

To adopt the following as the Area Board's priority areas for 2024/25 and appoint the following lead member to drive forward those areas:

- **Supporting positive mental health and wellbeing in young people (Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney)**
- **Addressing climate change, the environment and natural resources (Cllr Robert MacNaughton)**
- **Promoting health, wellbeing and combating social isolation in older and vulnerable people (Cllr Tom Rounds)**
- **Promoting and Supporting Initiatives to address Economic Inequalities (Cllr Ian Thorn)**
- **Addressing Highways/Transport Issues (Cllr Ashley O'Neill)**

The Area Board were then invited to appoint lead members to their working groups associated with their priority areas. On the proposal of Cllr Rounds, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:

Decision

To appoint lead members to the following working groups:

- **Air Quality/Environment Action Group (Cllr Robert MacNaughton)**

- Youth Forum (Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney)
- Health and Wellbeing (Cllr Tom Rounds)

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Area Board Funding

The Area Board noted the budgets remaining for allocation at the meeting and heard from representatives in attendance who gave a brief overview of and were questioned about their project.

Area Board Initiative

- Calne Big Get Together 2024 Requesting £1,000

On the proposal of Cllr Robert MacNaughton, seconded by Cllr Tom Rounds, it was resolved to make the:

Decision

To award £1,000 towards Calne Big Get Together 2024

Reason: The application met Older and Vulnerable People's Grant Criteria 20204/25.

Community Area Grant

- Calne Town Football Club Requesting £5,000 Towards Solar Panel and Battery Installation

On the proposal of Cllr MacNaughton, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:

Decision

To award Calne Football Club £5,000 towards solar panel and battery installation.

Reason: The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria 2024/25.

Older and Vulnerable Adult's Grant

Cllr Ashley O'Neill returned to the meeting at 8:07pm, so did not vote on the Area Board Initiative or Community Area Grant.

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| | <p>iii. <u>Wiltshire Music Centre Requesting £1,500 Towards Celebrating Age Wiltshire’s Creative Health and Wellbeing Project</u></p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr O’Neill, seconded by Cllr MacNaughton, it was resolved to make the:</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>To award Wiltshire Music Centre £1,500 towards Celebrating Age Wiltshire’s Creative Health and Wellbeing Project.</p> <p><i>Reason: The application met the Older and Vulnerable Adult’s Grant Criteria 2024/25.</i></p> <p>The Vice-Chairman abstained having declared an Other Registerable Interest, that he was a trustee of Wiltshire Music Centre.</p> <p>Information links: Area Board Grants and Grants Criteria.</p> |
| 44 | <p><u>Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG)</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the recommendations of the LHFIG meeting held on 26 July 2024.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr Ashley O’Neill, seconded by Cllr Tom Rounds, it was resolved to make the:</p> <p>Decision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To allocate funding to Issues already on the Priority Schemes List: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-23-5, Calne Parking Review £5,600 • 3-23-11 Derry Hill Topo Surveys £2,765 • To add the following Issue to the Priority Schemes List with funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-24-05 A4 A342 Deer Warning Signs £1,960 • To close the following Issue: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-22-21 A4 Cherhill, Middle Lane Closure of Lay-by |
| 45 | <p><u>Urgent items</u></p> <p>It was highlighted that there was normally a queue of taxis on the A4 before the closing time of Kingsbury Green Academy and it often caused traffic to back up. Cllr Robert MacNaughton noted that he would investigate the issue to see if it</p> |

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| | could be mitigated. |
| 46 | <p><u>Close and Future Dates</u></p> <p>6:30-8:30pm, with networking from 6:00pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 November 2024• 18 February 2025 <p>All meetings are held at Calne Hub and Library.</p> <p>Meeting details, Agendas and minutes can be viewed here.</p> |