

Salisbury Area Board

Air Quality Management Group

Date: Friday 7th February 2014
Time: 9.30am
Venue: The Meeting Room, Churchfields Depot, Stephenson Road, Salisbury

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Richard Clewer, Steve Milton (CAM), Gary Tomsett (WC), Rachel Kent (WC), David Milton (WC), Cllr Margaret Wilmott (SCC).

Apologies: Cllr Robertson (SCC), Pam Roquette (A21), Tom Murray Willis (SALTMO),

1. Appointment of Chair

Agreed: Cllr Clewer

2. Terms of Reference

The Group reviewed the terms of reference.

Agreed: that membership of the group is widened to include other interested groups in the City, including a representative of the Highways Agency and Salisbury Greenspace Partnership.

3. Salisbury Local Air Quality Management Plan

The Group considered the draft work plan (previously circulated).

The local area boards with AQMAs have provided the ideal platform for creating local community groups with an interest in improving air quality within their area. Each area board has created a specific group to generate a community air quality action plan. The plans feed into the Wiltshire AQAP and are detailed in the individual town chapters. They will remain standalone documents to allow for flexibility in timescales and reprioritisation of identified actions depending upon local circumstances.

The air quality groups have created their own terms of reference and membership makeup. (Composition of the groups varies according to the aspirations of each of the community areas). Approaches taken to producing the community air quality action plans have varied considerably, however they all have the common goal of improving air quality and health outcomes. The air quality groups report directly to the area board. It is envisaged that progress on the community air quality action plans will be reported annually to the area board and then to Public Protection Services for inclusion in the annual action plan progress report for Defra and updates for Cabinet and the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

Agreed: that the following points be incorporated into the next version of the draft for discussion at the next meeting:

- The plan should address the need for local community-led action within the strategic policy context provided by the Core Strategy, Salisbury Strategic Transport Plan, Vision, etc.
- The plan should include an aspiration to reduce traffic congestion within the ring road and initiate further work on how this may be achieved.
- The plan should acknowledge the work undertaken by existing groups such as the Walking to School initiative and the Salisbury Car Club.
- The plan should have as an objective the initiation of a community asset mapping process to identify existing activities and opportunities in the City. The asset mapping exercise should identify all green spaces held in public ownership within the City, with the aim of encouraging the 'greening' of Salisbury.
- The plan should initiate a scheme of local tree planting around the ring road, on the Churchill Way roundabouts and at other priority locations.
- The plan should seek to coordinate and initiate action to encourage cycling and walking.
- The plan should acknowledge the potential impact of major developments both in terms of the impact on air quality and the potential benefits.
- The Group should be involved in planning for these major developments as they come forward and should become a consultee on major schemes such as the Central Car Park.
- The plan should create the opportunity for micro-initiatives at neighbourhood level and link to funding available from the Area Board.

Recommended to the Area Board: that the work of the Group is noted and £5,000 be allocated from the budget 2014/15 to support projects initiated by the Group including as a priority the tree planting scheme mentioned above.