

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** Chippenham and Villages Area Board  
**Place:** Online  
**Date:** Monday 14 June 2021  
**Start Time:** 7.00pm  
**Finish Time:** 10.22pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Liz Alstrom, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Adrian Foster,  
Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Ross Henning (Chairman), Cllr Peter Hutton,  
Cllr Kathryn Macdermid, Cllr Dr Nick Murry (Vice-Chairman) and Cllr Nic Puntis

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Ollie Phipps (Community Engagement Manager), Dominic Argar (Assistant Multimedia Officer) and Ben Fielding (Democratic Services Officer)

### **Also Present**

Darren Nixon, Inspector James Brain, Cllr Allison Bucknell

**Total in attendance: 25**

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<u>Minute No..</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman, Councillor Ross Henning, welcomed those present to the meeting and invited members of the board to introduce themselves.</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Councillor Andy Phillips, Chippenham Town Council.</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meetings held on 10 February 2021 and 18 May 2021 were presented for consideration and it was;</p> <p><b><u>Resolved</u></b></p> <p><b>To approve the minutes as a correct record.</b></p>
4	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
5	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The chairman gave the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Board Model May 2021</li> </ul> <p>The announcement outlined the new annual Area Board model of four Area Board Business meetings, with multiple Area Board engagements at other times of the year focused on specific Area Board priorities. Additionally, the announcement informed that working groups of the Area Board such as youth networks, health and wellbeing groups and community area transport groups will continue to meet and link with the Area Board.</p> <p>It was clarified that capital cannot be used to pay for revenue items, however revenue can be used to pay for capital items. Additionally, the importance of using grant money to leverage other funding than paying for applications outright was stressed. This therefore prompted discussion that it would be useful to set up a working group to discuss funding and distribution, which would therefore develop a wider network for community engagement and partnership funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chippenham Ambulance Update</li> </ul> <p>The chair brought to the attention of the Area Board the report attached to the agenda regarding Chippenham Ambulance Station. The written report detailed which departments of the ambulance service would be relocating as well as a</p>

	<p>description of the service that each department provides.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Litter Pickers</b></li> </ul> <p>Councillor Peter Hutton provided an update on local litter pickers, who had recently completed a litter pick to support a national spring clean campaign, which received support from other organisations such as McDonalds. Councillor Hutton stated that such events aren't solely about litter picking but an opportunity for people to get together to discuss other ideas and issues.</p> <p>Councillor Hutton identified that an issue for litter picking is the short life span of the equipment involved, particularly grabbers. He will therefore be looking for the Area Board to support funding in the future for equipment.</p>
6	<p><u>Partner and Community Updates</u></p> <p>Updates were received from the following partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parish and Town Councils</b></li> </ul> <p>The Area Board noted that it is currently the early stages of the new Council and therefore there would not be much to be updated on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wiltshire Police</b></li> </ul> <p>Inspector James Brain provided the Area Board with an update which covered the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have been slight changes to the neighbourhood model which will now allow Inspector Brain and his team to focus on neighbourhood priorities through the neighbourhood and response teams working together.</li> <li>• Though the Prime Minister has announced that there will be a 4-week extension to Covid restrictions, this hasn't changed the policing plan that has been used over the past 18 months which has focused on education rather than enforcement.</li> <li>• The government have looked to recruit an extra 20,000 police officers nationally, locally Wiltshire was promised 49 but is now up to 60. These officers have been going through training and some are now through to their probationary period. Additionally the PC recruitment campaign recently closed after it received over 400 applicants in 48 hours.</li> <li>• 5 weeks ago the police did a media release about priority work, drug arrests and warrants which has contributed to the seizure of £10,000 worth of drugs in the last 18 months.</li> <li>• Though there has been a rise in anti-social behaviour in the Saddlers Mead carpark, the number of calls has reduced with the police having undertaken a collaborative and partner approach.</li> <li>• The police have prioritised monthly areas to enforce speeding in, this has been dictated by evidence-based policing. Community speed watch members have also been back out.</li> </ul>

Following the verbal update there was time for the following questions:

- It was questioned how local people can report crime. The importance of locals reporting criminal behaviour was stressed as this can build a bigger picture for evidence-based policing. Suggested ways of reporting included calling 999 and 111, getting in touch with crime stoppers anonymously as well as through the police website and local officers.
- It was queried whether police cars have been affected by the Station Hill traffic lights. Though the first week was challenging due to restrictions easing, this has not been an issue.
- This issue of catalytic converter theft was raised, which was noted to have been a common crime in the past. Though no arrests have been made, staff have been made aware and letter drops to the public have taken place as a preventative action.
- Concerns of speeding on West Cepen Way and Bumpers Farm were raised. Inspector Brain informed that speeding gets brought up at many forums and there is a national road safety strategy which each local force links into, as well as a local sub-road safety strategy team. This sub-group links in with community speed watch teams as well as a local force tasking meeting which identifies hotspots through data to be targeted and consequently educated and enforced.
- During a trip to Dorset and Devon, Councillor Hutton noticed the deployment of mobile CCTV to present messages. It was questioned whether this could be used locally not only for anti-social behaviour messages but also for speeding, which Inspector Brain stated would be raised.
- The Rural Parishes Forum has reformed and has met to investigate rural policing issues, which Inspector Brain and members of the force were invited to partake in.

- **Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service**

The Area Board noted a written update attached to the agenda, which included a quarterly update. In addition to the written update, Darren Nixon, Station Manager, provided a verbal update to the Area Board which echoed the contents of the written update.

Following the verbal update there was time for the following questions:

- It was questioned whether there had been an increase in the number of accidents, proportional to the loosening of lockdown restrictions, however it is difficult to determine yet as the data currently available is not from the past months. Though last year saw a large decrease in accidents, Mr Nixon predicted that numbers would return to previous levels.
- It was requested that if the Fire Service are to offer another round of Salamander courses, that grants are sent in soon. It was clarified that the Salamander courses offer a work experience week for many ages and differing groups of people, therefore allowing them to get on the jobs ladder.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Future Chippenham</b> Councillor Ross Henning updated that though there isn't an update from Future Chippenham as part of the agenda, he has arranged a meeting with them on 1 July and will be looking to feedback information on the HIF bid and proposals.</li> <li>• <b>Healthwatch Wiltshire</b> The Area Board noted a written update attached to the agenda.</li> <li>• <b>BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).</b> The Area Board noted a written update attached to the agenda.</li> <li>• It was noted that regarding the future development of Chippenham that it would be useful for the Area Board to make contact with the CCG to discuss the how the expansion of Chippenham might affect the future of Chippenham hospital and so that information could be gained about future investment.</li> </ul>
7	<p><u>Outside Bodies and Working Groups</u></p> <p>The following appointments to outside bodies and working groups for the forthcoming year were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chippenham Multi-Agency Forum – Councillors Kathryn Macdemid and Ross Henning.</li> <li>• Chippenham Safer and Strong Communities Group – Councillors Liz Alstrom and Clare Cape.</li> <li>• Chippenham Community Area Transport Group (CATG) – Councillors Nic Puntis, Ross Henning and Nick Botterill.</li> <li>• Chippenham Local Youth Network (LYN) – Councillors Peter Hutton, Kathryn Macdermid and Ross Henning.</li> <li>• Chippenham Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) - Councillors Clare Cape and Adrian Foster</li> </ul> <p>The following appointments of Area Board Lead Councillors for the forthcoming year were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highways and Transport, including Community Area Transport Group (CATG) – Councillors Nic Puntis, Ross Henning and Nick Botterill.</li> <li>• Children and Young People, including Local Youth Network – Councillor Peter Hutton, Kathryn Macdermid, Ross Henning and Adrian Foster.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Wellbeing, including the Health and Wellbeing Group – Councillors Clare Cape and Adrian Foster.</li> <li>• Economy and Employment – Councillor Dr Nick Murry and Howard Greenman.</li> <li>• Environment – Councillor Dr Nick Murry and Howard Greenman.</li> <li>• Older People – Councillor Peter Hutton</li> <li>• Arts, Culture and Leisure – Councillor Liz Alstrom</li> <li>• Community Safety – Councillor Liz Alstrom and Clare Cape.</li> <li>• Housing and Development – Councillors Dr Nick Murry, Nic Puntis and Clare Cape.</li> </ul>
8	<p><u>Community Engagement Manager Delegated Decisions</u></p> <p>The Area Board referred to the document attached to the agenda regarding Community Engagement Manager Delegated Decisions which included the following proposal:</p> <p><i>In order to expedite the work of the Area Board and to deal with urgent matters that may arise between meetings, the Community Engagement Manager, following consultation with the Chairman (or in their absence, the Vice-Chairman) of the Area Board, may authorise expenditure to support community projects (including youth, health and wellbeing and community area transport) from the delegated budget of up to £5,000 per application between meetings of the Area Board. The Community Engagement Manager should seek the views of all Area Board members to obtain a majority in support, prior to the expenditure being agreed.</i></p> <p><i>Decisions taken between meetings will be reported in the funding report to the next meeting of the Area Board explaining why the matter was considered urgent or necessary to expedite the work of the Board. Where a significant number of urgent matters arise between meetings, a special meeting may be called, following consultation with the Chairman to determine such matters.</i></p> <p>In a previous discussion, the Chippenham Area Board members agreed that the following caveat be added to the proposal: “The Community Engagement Manager must attempt to seek approval from Area Board Members prior to approving any grant application”</p> <p><b><u>Resolved</u></b></p> <p><b>The Area Board agreed to move and voted to accept the proposal.</b></p>

9	<p><u>Community Area Status Reports and Area Board Priority Setting</u></p> <p>Ollie Phipps (Community Engagement Manager) provided an overview of the Community Area Status Report to the Area Board. The Community Area Status Report combined local data from sources in order to form an evidence base to therefore identify priorities from.</p> <p>The Area Board then agreed upon the following priorities for Chippenham and Villages for the forthcoming year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Climate and Environment Projects</li> <li>• Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour/Community Safety</li> <li>• Health &amp; Wellbeing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Loneliness &amp; Isolation of Older People</li> <li>b) Rural Isolation</li> <li>c) Physical Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> <li>d) Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Youth Engagement &amp; Mental Health</li> <li>• Economy/Night-time Economy</li> </ul> <p>The chosen priorities would in the future be fed into an action plan system, which would rate the priorities as being Red/Amber/Green. Councillor Hutton also acknowledged that though all of the chosen priorities fit with the work of the Area Board, it is important to keep communication up to date with the projects involved so that the budget can fit.</p>
10	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG)</u></p> <p>Councillor Ross Henning introduced the minutes and recommendations from the CATG meeting held on 1 June 2021.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p><b>To note the minutes from the CATG meeting which took place 1 June 2021 and approve the following included recommendations within the report:</b></p> <p><b>5. 4-21-2 Park Farm Bends, C86 – (CATG £1323, PC £567 (shared between both PC)</b></p> <p><b>8. Bristol Road, Chippenham – Pedestrian Crossing Assessment (CATG £700, TC £300 tbc)</b></p>
11	<p><u>Swindon &amp; Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership Presentation</u></p> <p>Paddy Bradley, CEO of Swindon &amp; Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP), provided the Area Board with a presentation focused on the economy of Chippenham High Street. Mr Bradley introduced that the Local Enterprise Partnership was 1 of 38 in the country, with a focus on the sustainable economic growth of Swindon and Wiltshire. The data provided was based on labour</p>

market intelligence tools as well as real time historic data from job postings, totalling 40,00 data sources. Key issues from the presentation included:

- Figures showed that Chippenham had high employment rates, with a high proportion of active and highly skilled workers as well as a lower proportion of claimants aged above 25.
- The strongest sectors for jobs in Chippenham were manufacturing as well as the public defence and construction sectors. These larger employers listed more available jobs over the past year.
- According to job search websites, Chippenham's job listings fell in April 2020, however this was broadly in line with the rest of the UK. The greatest drops being in construction, hospitality, and finance.
- Figures showed that all sectors are recovering, including hospitality since May 2021.
- Nationally, job postings have generally recovered to pre-lockdown levels, however high streets have changed significantly with a number of large brands closing shops.
- Chippenham does not appear to have seen many shop closures, with limited commercial property vacancies in the town centre. Nationally, this has increased but is still below rates taken from the 2009 financial crisis.
- It was detailed that hospitality and retail job postings have been recovering in Chippenham, however this is still below pre-lockdown levels.

Following the presentation there was time for the following questions:

- Members of the Area Board raised concerns regarding Chippenham being a commuter town. Questions were asked surrounding why this was the case and what could be done to resolve this situation. Mr Bradley stated that from population surveys, Chippenham presented as being self-contained with 78% of those living there also working there. It was stated that some commuting does take place as a result of Chippenham's proximity to Swindon and Bristol as well as the electrification of the railway. Mr Bradley stated that working from home could potentially resolve the issue as well as if the town was to change what was on offer in the centre to avoid the risk of creating a donut development, therefore enticing the population to remain. One potential suggestion was to increase the amount of town centre housing.
- Rural commuting into Chippenham was referenced, to which Mr Bradley identified that there is a need to level up those who are in rural locations, by means of public transport and recharging points.
- Employment figures were queried as there have been reports of shortages of employees in the hospitality and retail sectors. Mr Bradley stated that this is a countrywide problem, especially for locations that previously relied on tourism and have expanded due to population. There has also been an impact caused by Brexit, with people from European countries leaving posts as well as others being trained in different sectors due to negative messages. Long term this should improve.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current housing market was acknowledged and with there being few houses available for purchase and rent, Chippenham clearly maintains to be a good place to live. Mr Bradley agreed that the housing market is currently fast paced however this should eventually slow, it is then when there will be a challenge to ensure that there is growth in jobs and an appeal to people.</li> <li>• The status of the Saddlers Mead business site was queried, to which Mr Bradley clarified that Wiltshire Council own the land and will make the decision regarding development.</li> </ul>
12	<p><u>Local Youth Network Update</u></p> <p>Ollie Phipps, Community Engagement Manager (CEM), provided the Area Board with an update on the Local Youth Network. The Local Youth Network is currently focused on summer youth provisions and has been working on this with partners in and around Chippenham. A poster and digital copy have been produced to promote this.</p>
13	<p><u>Area Board Funding</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the following as detailed in the reports attached to the agenda.</p> <p>a) Community Area Grants</p> <p>1) Independent Artist Group - £243 for Independent Art Group Art Fairs and Craft Markets.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Independent Artist Group was awarded £243 towards Independent Art Group Art Fairs and Craft Markets.</b></p> <p>2) Chippenham Cricket Club - £2,186.40 for Chippenham Cricket Club facility improvements.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Chippenham Cricket Club was awarded £2,186.40 towards Chippenham Cricket Club facility improvements. The Area Board also added a caveat that the applicant would be expected to offer a free community day and explore options for young people’s scholarships.</b></p> <p>3) Friends of Monkton Park School - £5,000 for Converting Monkton Park School Bungalow to a Community Facility.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Friends of Monkton Park School was awarded £5,000 towards Converting Monkton Park School Bungalow to a Community Facility.</b></p> <p>4) Ivy Wildlife Garden - £510 for Ivy Wildlife Garden purchase of wood chip</p>

for paths.

**Decision**

**Ivy Wildlife Garden was awarded £510 towards Ivy Wildlife Garden purchase of wood chip for paths.**

- 5) Friends of Queen's Crescent School - £2,997.30 for Queens Crescent School sensory room equipment.

**Decision**

**Friends of Queen's Crescent School was awarded £2,997.30 towards Queens Crescent School sensory room equipment.**

- 6) Biddestone Tennis Club - £5,000 for Biddestone Tennis Club Floodlights.

**Decision**

**Biddestone Tennis Club was awarded £5,000 towards Biddestone Tennis Club Floodlights. The Area Board also added a caveat that the applicant would be expected to offer a free community day and explore options for young people's scholarships.**

- 7) Friends of Seagry School PTA - £5,000 Seagry School Multi use games area.

**Decision**

**Friends of Seagry School PTA was awarded £5,000 towards Seagry School Multi use games area.**

- 8) Doorway Wiltshire Ltd - £4,775 for Doorway move to the Citadel equipment.

**Decision**

**Doorway Wiltshire Ltd was awarded £4,775 towards Doorway move to the Citadel equipment.**

b) Health and Wellbeing Grant Applications

- 1) Families Out Loud - £3,944 for Families Out Loud service delivery costs.

**Decision**

**Families Out Loud was awarded £2,000 towards Families Out Loud service delivery costs.**

c) Community Area Youth Grants

- 1) Youth Adventure Trust - £2,388.64 for supporting disadvantaged young people through the pandemic and beyond.

	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Youth Adventure Trust was awarded £1,500 towards supporting disadvantaged young people through the pandemic and beyond.</b></p> <p>2) Rag and Bone Arts CIC - £750 for Summer of fun.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Rag and Bone Arts CIC was awarded £750 towards Summer of fun.</b></p> <p>3) Kandu Arts - £5,000 for Park Life (£2,500 recommended).</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Kandu Arts was awarded £2,500 towards Park Life.</b></p> <p>4) The Rise Trust – £4,812 for Rise Trust Youth Café.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Rise Trust was awarded £4,812 towards Rise Trust Youth Café.</b></p> <p>5) The Rise Trust - £4,762 for Rise Trust Youth holiday sessions.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Rise Trust was awarded £4,762 towards Rise Trust Youth Holiday Sessions.</b></p> <p>6) 4Youth - £4,030 for Teen Talk Chippenham 2021.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>4Youth was awarded £4,030 towards Teen Talk Chippenham 2021.</b></p>
14	<p><b><u>Urgent Items</u></b></p> <p>There were no urgent items.</p>
15	<p><b><u>Close</u></b></p> <p><b>The date of the next meeting is Monday 27 September at 7.00pm.</b></p>

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## Community Area Status Report

Autumn 2020 / Spring 2021

### Chippenham community area

#### Background and context

The overarching aim of the Wiltshire Council recovery plan is to enable Wiltshire agencies and partners to support local residents, communities and businesses and staff from responding organisations manage their own recovery from the incident.

The Chippenham community area has seen an incredible response to the COVID19 pandemic with volunteers leading the response and strategic partners working collaboratively to support our communities. Covering the parishes of Biddestone, Castle Coombe, Chippenham, Chippenham Without, Christian Malford, Grittleton, Hullavington, Kington Langley, Kington St Michael, Langley Burrell, Nettleton, North Wraxall, Seagry, Stanton St Quintin, Sutton Benger and Yatton Keynell.

As we now look ahead, this document provides a summary of information that can be utilised to help inform local community recovery plans. It brings together the differing data and information sources from across the community area that will help us to understand the local impact of COVID-19. It also highlights communities that may have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic and any gaps in our current knowledge that may be suitable for further intelligence gathering.

Over time this document will be regularly updated in response to changes, new information and actions undertaken. Whilst the impact of COVID-19 is considerable, it is recognised that many of the issues identified in this report were existing ones.

Whilst it is natural to focus on the issues where improvement is required, it is important to recognise and build on the positives that have arisen during the pandemic. These include the closer working between organisations, increased community cohesion, new volunteers and the wider use of the internet / social media.

This document considers the actions, projects and plans that are emerging from across our volunteers, community groups and partners. This subsequently provides an overview of the gaps in our local knowledge and some potential next steps for further collaborative working.

#### Community data and information

There are multiple sources of data that provide an excellent overview of the current situation within our community and the or our community that can be accessed to help inform collective next steps:

- JSNA local data sets – (collected in winter 2019)
- JSNA 2020 – Demography and overarching indicators
- [Children and young people mental health needs Assessment](#)
- [Gypsy, traveller and boater populations health needs assessment Wiltshire](#)
- [Office for National Statistics](#)

- COVID19 support group survey – (June 2020)
- Wiltshire CAJSNA 2020 Community Survey Results (Tidworth)
- Local Youth Network Needs Assessment
- Consultation with Town and Parish Council meeting - (7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020)
- Discussions with other key groups including:
  - I. Police
  - II. Health & Wellbeing Forum
  - III. Local Area Coordinator
  - IV. Town & Parish Councils
  - V. Chippenham Chamber of Commerce
  - VI. Parish Forum
  - VII. Older peoples and Carers Champions
  - VIII. Local Youth Network
  - IX. Rise Trust Youth Workers
  - X. Citizen Advice Wiltshire
  - XI. Chippenham Multi-Agency Forum

## Understanding the impact

### COVID Support Groups

Many of the COVID pop up support groups formed at the start of the pandemic have either dispended or gone dormant. However, these connections within these community have now been made and residents feel confident they can be kick started again should the situation worsen into the winter 2020/21.

Local groups such as Link Scheme are still offering trips to collect shopping and prescriptions alongside driving individuals to appointments, however, the number of people using LINK for this has significantly dropped.

Trinity Church is setting up a debt support service with funding from Area Board, Chippenham Borough Lands and Wiltshire Community Foundation.

Food Banks have received additional funding that they expect to run out in about by end November - as they have stewarded its usage to expenditure of roughly £100/week on food, plus a small amount of mileage and cleaning. People requiring additional support are being asking people to contact Wiltshire Citizens Advice. Food Banks are taking referrals from other agencies such as Greensquare Housing, Unity House, Rise Trust.

One food bank state: weekly usage has dropped slightly from 80+ to 70 households each week. They are conducting a customer questionnaire over the next 2 weeks which should give them firmer ideas going forwards.

They already get feedback that suggests what we offer intercepts people who might otherwise need to ask for emergency parcels from Chippenham Foodbank more frequently - thus avoiding any of the stigma that is entailed. Though numbers are down, they are seeing new family from which members have lost their employment.

The surplus element of the content provides a boost to morale - treats for children, luxury items not otherwise experienced.

Current feedback from students re-entering lockdown elsewhere might point to the benefit from our use of grant funding from the council for fresh produce - greens and fruit - alongside a few staples each week.

#### Information and Advice:

Chippenham Borough Lands has developed a new community website with up to date and relevant information regarding community group activities and provision:

<https://onechippenham.org.uk/category/covid-19/>

Community support groups were contacted at start of lockdown 3 in January 2021 – all state they were in a good position to continue to support those in need in their villages/community areas, as they have been all year. Many now have lists of the vulnerable in their areas and actively call them to check on their wellbeing.

#### **Community**

Currently in the Chippenham community attention has turned back to issues pre-covid;

- Future Chippenham – HIF road and housing plan
- Saddlers Mead Multi Story Car Park & Business Development
- Bath Road Car Park
- Climate change/ environmental focus
- Community Eco Hub Project

With the addition of concerns of the new cycle routes being placed across Chippenham with little consultation attracting a lot of negative attention.

#### **Community Safety**

Though Police are being asked to increase high street presence to enforce COVID rules, Chippenham police have stated they have seen little problem with adherence. However, we have seen an increase of day street drinking which is being challenged and a plan is in place to deal with this. Area Board & Town Council has funded CCTV to capture and help address anti-social behaviour in the town. Work needs to be progressed on Community Massaging and developing intel from the community to help solve crimes. With the loss of the Chippenham Street Pastors it will be monitored to see the impact on support toward the nighttime economy.

Chippenham Police current focus is on drug supply in the town and neighbouring towns. Graffiti is a growing concern, partners to work on renewing the graffiti wall.

Rural crime is an important issue as there are 15 villages covered by Chippenham Area Board. Main issues include Animal theft, and having a county boundary to the west, cross boarder communication. There is a new rural crime team, and Chippenham area has a dedicated officer, linked to the new rural crime partnership and recently in partnership with The Wiltshire Bobby Van trust and the Angling Trust launched Police Drones operate in this area signs.

Animal theft; A trial is currently being undertaken in Dorset with regards to sheep collars that detect sudden movement and will alert farmer if they are out of the field, when we have more information than this will be shared. Wiltshire like many other Counties can be hit hard by livestock theft, Chippenham had repeat victims last year (probably linked with the good road access), we will continue to develop in this area. Chippenham Police now have two additional dog chip scanners.

We have been assured that the Rural crime Team are linked into all bordering forces and on a daily basis share information and do joint operations where possible.

### Chippenham Area of Concerns:

- JCP, mostly revolves around the MUGA, foul language and smoking of substances occasional issue with Alcohol. This does sometimes occur in the Tennis club/Bowls club where the teenagers antagonize the people trying to play sport. Wardens have been verbally and very nearly physically abused in recent weeks at locking up time when the youths are reluctant to leave. Closing time is at dusk (Currently wardens start closing around 830pm) Youths
  - Monkton Park, few issues with youngsters reported however many incidents of drug use in and around the toilet block and rough sleepers using/vandalizing the toilets. Adults
  - Little Battens and Pewsham Play parks. Late night activity by youths smoking and drinking, smashing bottles in MUGAS, Pewsham Teen Shelter see's incidents of drug use. Youths
  - Pewsham Play Park: groups of dog walkers who sometimes be passive aggressive to youths who are paying football or generally enjoying the open space. Adults
  - St Andrews Church yard, drug use (needles), alcohol consumption a common occurrence Adults
  - New park (open space behind emery gate car park, drug use (needles) alcohol consumption a common occurrence Adults
  - Old Cemetery/unity house drug use (needles) alcohol consumption a common occurrence Adults and Youths.
  - Town Centre, alcohol consumption, vagrancy issues. Adults
  - Car parks (emery gate and new Monkton park multi storey), general asb, (boy racers) drinking, litter, alcohol. Adults and youths.
- Saddlers Mead new multi-story was causing issues, now reducing due to increased use.

### **Older People & Vulnerable**

As the Health & Wellbeing forum is hosted by an older group of people it is one of the meetings that has not met since before the pandemic, however, the email group list, of over 55, is used to share information locally, this has slowed down now.

At the moment it looks as if the only way the H&W forum could continue is by holding virtual meetings. Although there are advantages in this, and partners are missing the meetings, the group who manage the meetings are themselves older and not most confident with technology.

Area Board have funded Anybodycancook to deliver cooking classes with a free slow cooker for older people, we are looking at ways of providing this now.

Celebrating Age is being launch in Chippenham, aiming to support older isolated people with music, online concerts, mini concerts outside their houses, and workshops.

Slowly local coffee mornings, day clubs and luncheon clubs are starting to re-open. However, the older client base for these are not yet all comfortable to attend.

VCS attention turns to Christmas with groups offering home cooked Christmas meals, food parcels and gift boxes delivered to older, vulnerable or low-income homes. The main supermarkets are supporting these endeavours donating food or vouchers.

Concerns of older people's ability to access provision/ information online via computers. Especial as organisations turn to delivering online.



Area Board, Chippenham Borough Lands and Morrisons are working in partnership to support the social groups (Bookclubs, knit and natter, coffee mornings etc) to re-open in the community. From funding hall hire, PPE, and refreshments.

### **Young People & Children**

Early Years Inclusion Service are looking for children with developmental delays.

Childrens Centres re-started outreach visits to families, all courses have now been made virtual, play rooms available via booking. Rise Trust are running bi-monthly support sessions for child care settings.

Support and Safeguarding teams now visiting all thresholds at home again.

School effectiveness, EWO, Social, & SEND identify children in need should a class have to isolate due to a positive case.

Play Therapy are running face to face session, also have take home activity packs for families.

Weekly reports from Rise Trust indicate the usual teenage problems affecting local young people such as; home relationships, alcohol, smoking, etc. The young people engaging in this service has appreciated the ongoing support and relationships they have with their youth work team.

The three secondary schools and college in the area have been working hard to establish a new normal in educational bubbles. Young people's challenging behaviour has seen an increase, this has been put down to being out of education settings for so long, and a return to a different learning environment.

Local youth groups and activity providers have been continuing delivery over summer into autumn, where space allows inside. Many still providing a hybrid of inside and online provision. They continue to keep up to date with legislation to understand what they are allowed to do, but find much of it confusing and look to Wiltshire Council for clarity.

The LYN will be running a youth survey in Autumn 2021 to assess the needs for young people. This will be run through all the partners of the LYN, Schools and College.

### **High Street Business**

Many businesses operating with skeleton staff working from home since the start of the pandemic. High street businesses that can have moved to offering home delivery to help survive and have moved to collection pick up from shop with reduction of 25% occupancy in store due to social distancing rules. Utilising flexible furlough into the new scheme helps retain staff. Some businesses have experienced a drop in market value of their goods one example was the price of wool £120 - £10 due to closure of international market.

However, others reported their customer base building back over summer and some businesses are hiring more staff. An example of this is local tech companies seeing boost in business to help businesses work from home using new tech.

Hard for businesses in constant survival mode – trying to work out how guidelines and policies will change working practices – dealing with uncertainty. Some business sectors still struggling more than others i.e.: hospitality. Currently most businesses making sure there is enough cash to make it through winter.

Charity sector working more month by month – initial funding was quick and needed, but little since

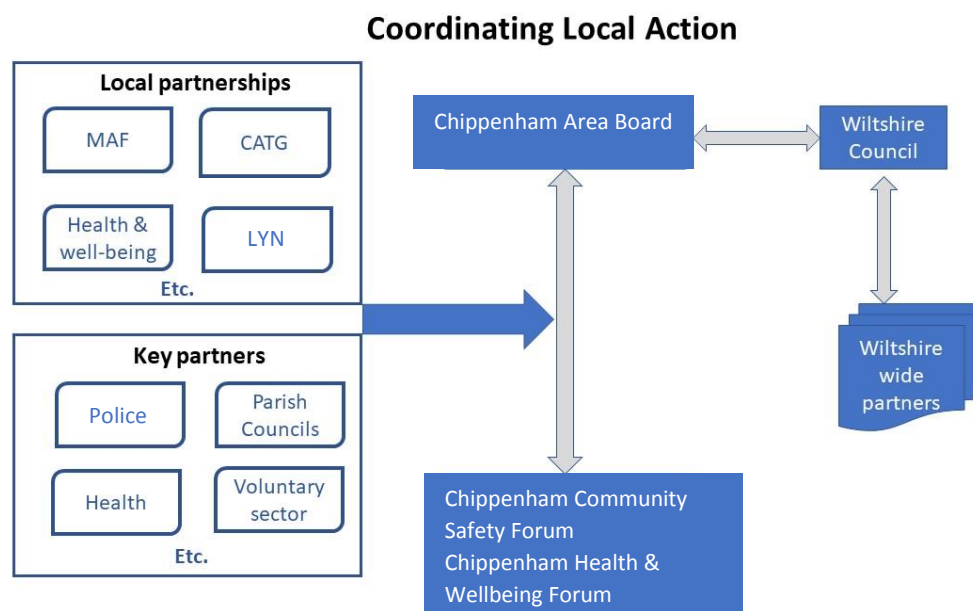
## Employment

Across Wiltshire the percentage of young people aged 18-24 now claiming work-related benefits, either Job Seekers' Allowance or Universal Credit, ranges from 9-12% in the constituencies of Chippenham and South West Wiltshire to 3-6% in Devizes. This is an increase from 3-6% in Chippenham, Salisbury and South West Wiltshire and from 0-3% in Devizes and North Wiltshire. Similarly, the 11 number of Jobseekers' Allowance or Universal Credit claimants nationally between the ages of 18-24 has doubled since March

<https://www.citizensadvicewiltshire.org.uk/campaigning-for-change?start=1>

## How local actions will be supported

The local response within the Chippenham Community Area is one of co-production recognising that to rebuild our communities, it is important that we work together, sharing information and resources where appropriate.



**Chippenham Area Board** covers the whole community area and is responsible for the production and management of this document. It links local delivery to Wiltshire Council, police, health and other partners. It is an accountable body with influence and powers. It has its own funding to help support local initiatives. The Area Board will produce its own work plan to show how what actions will be taken to help address the issues raised by the community and captured in this report

**Themes:** The recovery work within Wiltshire is organised around 4 key themes and these are also reflected within this report and the discussions taking place locally. They are:

- I. Economy and employment
- II. Health, well-being and adult care
- III. Community Resilience
- IV. Young people, education and children

Chippenham Area Board will receive regular updates around its own work plan of actions that will support and contribute to the local priorities. This report will be presented to the Chippenham Area Board for acceptance at its June 2021 meeting and subsequently to agree its action plan at the September 2021 meeting following the local elections.

### Next steps

- This report will be considered for acceptance by Chippenham Area Board at its meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021
- An Area Board work plan will be presented to the Area Board at its meeting in September meeting.
- The CEM will engage with partners and stakeholders so that they understand the report and can consider how they will play their part in responding.
- Updates will be a standard item at future area board meetings.

### List of emerging issues as identified by the community and supporting data

Issue	Supporting evidence
Climate change & renewable energies	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Waste & recycling	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Anti-social behaviour & crime	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Accessible, positive activities for all ages	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Mental health and wellbeing	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Wildlife & biodiversity	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Community venues and open spaces	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Highway infrastructure and maintenance	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Cycling and walking	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Public Transport	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Physical activity and healthy lifestyles	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Appropriate housing (social and affordable)	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Access to health related services & activities	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Fly tipping	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Social isolation and loneliness	CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results
Young People mental health	Local Youth Network
Rural Isolation and Loneliness	Health & Wellbeing Forum

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