

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** Westbury Area Board  
**Place:** The Laverton, Bratton Rd, Westbury BA13 3EN  
**Date:** 19 July 2023  
**Start Time:** 7.00 pm  
**Finish Time:** 9.00 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to: Ben Fielding - Senior Democratic Services Officer, (Tel): 01225 718656 or (e-mail) [benjamin.fielding@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:benjamin.fielding@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Matthew Dean, Cllr Gordon King (Chairman), Cllr Suzanne Wickham and Cllr Carole King (Vice-Chairman)

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Graeme Morrison, Strategic Engagement Partnerships Manager  
Karlene Jammeh, Area Board Delivery Officer  
Dominic Argar, Assistant Multimedia Officer  
Ben Fielding, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Lucy Townsend, Director of People

### **Partners**

Inspector Kevin Harmsworth, Wiltshire Police

### **Town and Parish Councils**

Heywood Parish Council  
Bratton Parish Council  
Edington Parish Council  
Westbury Town Council

**Total in attendance: 16**

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<b><u>Minute No..</u></b>	<b><u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u></b>
1.	<p><u>Election of the Chairman</u></p> <p>Nominations were sought for a Chairman for the forthcoming year. On the nomination of Councillor Matt Dean seconded by Councillor Suzanne Wickham, it was,</p> <p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b></p> <p><b>To elect Councillor Gordon King as Chairman of the Westbury Area Board for the forthcoming year.</b></p>
2.	<p><u>Election of the Vice-Chairman</u></p> <p>Nominations were sought for a Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. On the nomination of Councillor Gordon King seconded by Councillor Suzanne Wickham, it was,</p> <p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b></p> <p><b>To elect Councillor Carole King as Vice-Chairman of the Westbury Area Board for the forthcoming year.</b></p>
3.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Westbury Area Board.</p>
4.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>
5.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2023 were presented for consideration and it was;</p> <p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b></p> <p><b>To approve and sign as a true and correct record of the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2023.</b></p>
6.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Cllr Matt Dean noted that they had received an on-going dispensation from the Standards Committee by virtue of being a town councillor.</p>
7.	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p>

	<p>The Chairman of the Area Board made the following announcements, which were contained in the agenda pack.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wiltshire Libraries are supporting residents to stay online during the cost-of-living crisis.</li> <li>• Cost of Living Update.</li> <li>• Independent Visitor Scheme promotion for volunteers.</li> </ul> <p>A comment was received later in the meeting that Wiltshire Council also commissioned a “Grandmentors” scheme for people over 50 years of age, who would like to support carers and young people aged 18-25. A leaflet and poster for the Grandmentors scheme was attached to the agenda, with those interested able to contact Lin Scott, the project co-ordinator: <a href="mailto:lin.scott@volunteeringmatters.org.uk">lin.scott@volunteeringmatters.org.uk</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on the Council’s activity and progress on the Climate Emergency- <a href="https://youtu.be/LP2FzC7rHSw">https://youtu.be/LP2FzC7rHSw</a></li> <li>• Multiply – Online Courses.</li> <li>• PCCs across the Southwest launch new rural crime survey and quarterly newsletter.</li> </ul> <p>Comments were received that within the briefing note there had been no mention of the relocation of Salisbury Police Station to an alternative location, which could potentially have cost implications, with Wiltshire Police currently renting Bourne Hill from Wiltshire Council. Custody facilities were also referenced, with those in attendance encouraged to contact the PCC or complete the Rural Crime survey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wiltshire Local Plan Review.</li> </ul> <p>Comments were received that implications of the Wiltshire Local Plan review would mean that there could be a reduction in influence regarding the shape of the Local Plan. Concern for Westbury was also cited as there had not been talk of a Westbury bypass or reference to commitment to using developer finding to improve existing amenities. It was hoped that Town and Parish councils would come forward to produce a united front.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Post Office Deliveries.</li> <li>• Westbury Young People Awards.</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing Event – 25 June 2023.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p>Updates were received from the following partners:</p>

- **Wiltshire Police**

The Area Board noted a written updates attached to the agenda. In addition, Inspector Kevin Harmsworth provided a verbal update which covered the following points:

- Attention was drawn to the following local priorities for Westbury, as referenced within the report:
  - Westbury Town Area
  - Leighton Recreation Ground
  - Rural Crime
- In addition to the written Road Safety Update, Inspector Harmsworth stated that enforcement activity had recently taken place with penalty points handed out and individuals enrolled on speed awareness courses.
- Regarding the Engage Process, though Wiltshire Police remained in special measures, since Inspector Harmsworth came into post, there had been improvements in levels of service and investigation standards.
- Wiltshire Police had recently been internally audited with recommendations on how to further improve.
- Attention was drawn to the role of civilian enforcement officers, with residents encouraged to contact the police should they wish for a patrol to be requested for a location.

After the verbal update, there was time for the following questions and points to be made:

- Gratitude was directed towards residents who partake in Community Speed Watch as often people have been abused, to which the Inspector suggested that residents should take note of number plates and report any abuse.
- Cllr Dean noted that he had been contacted by a constituent at Easter, citing that he was dissatisfied with an encounter which had taken place between himself and a Police Officer on Warminster High Street, with concern that the officer had refused to identify himself or wear collar numbers. Inspector Harmsworth explained that there are some officers in uniform and some not for under cover purposes; that officers should have numbers on their shoulders and chest as well as being able to produce a warrant card or officer ID. Furthermore, should residents still be concerned, they can ask for verification through the loudspeaker of the Officer's radio or if still unsatisfied back away. It was also clarified that this process also applies to PCSOs.

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

Clarity was sought from a Member of Bratton Parish Council that at the previous meeting there had been reference in the report to an incident on Imber Road, in which the Fire Service had been called on 27 June 2023. The report had referenced that the Fire Service had been unable to get their truck down Imber Road due to cars parked and had trouble in rocking the cars out the way. Further clarity was requested on this issue.

- **Community First**

The Area Board noted a written update attached to the agenda.

- **Healthwatch Wiltshire**

The Area Board noted a written update attached to the agenda.

- **AgeUK Wiltshire**

The Area Board noted a written update attached to the agenda.

- **Town and Parish Council Nominated Representatives**

The Area Board received the following verbal update from Cllr Jeff Ligo on behalf of Bratton Parish Council. The update covered the following matters:

- Bratton Week took place from 24 June to 2 July 2023, which had gone well and had attracted a number of visitors. Events included a School Fete and Scarecrow Trail, as well as being a vehicle for voluntary organisation groups to raise money.
- The Parish Council is still battling to achieve a Neighbourhood Plan.
- Cllr Keith Rayward had recently been elected as the Chairman of the Parish Council.
- Cllr Suzanne Wickham congratulated Bratton Parish Council for the success of Bratton Week.

The Area Board received the following verbal update from Cllr Sheila Kimmins on behalf of Westbury Town Council. The update covered the following matters:

- The Town Council had recently elected a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor.
- The Soapbox Derby held in May went very well and had been attended by 8,000 people.
- New CCTV had now been installed in the town centre, with the Town Council pleased with the visibility and product that could be printed, with the hope that it would act as a deterrent.
- Work had been conducted to establish a Post Office in Westbury, with meetings taking place and hope that an announcement would follow in the future.
- The Westbury Area Network Foodbank was looking for drivers as there was some outlying areas requiring deliveries.

The Area Board received the following verbal update from Cllr Helen O'Donoghue on behalf of Edington Parish Council. The update covered the following matters:

- Village improvements are on-going including footpaths and yellow lining.
- Work on the Neighbourhood Plan is stalling, due to Wiltshire Council wanting a specific number of houses which the Parish doesn't currently have. In response Cllr Matt Dean offered to speak with Nic Thomas (Director of Planning), regarding the issue and report back to the Area Board.

The Area Board received the following verbal update from Richard Culverhouse on behalf of Heywood Parish Council. The update covered the following matters:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Heywood Neighbourhood plan is nearly complete and ready to go back to the public.</li> <li>• Correspondence had taken place with Westbury Town Council regarding a Governance Review, which will then be taken back to Wiltshire Council in October.</li> <li>• An on-going challenge for the Parish Council is an open church graveyard in the PCC area, with several people approaching the Parish Council due to its overgrown state. The Arch Deacon of Wiltshire had provided advice that it should be the responsibility of North Bradley Parish Council, so there was hope for progress.</li> </ul>
9.	<p><u>Area Board End of Year Report</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Part I – Looking Back</b></p> <p>The Area Board received a presentation from Strategic Engagement Partnerships Manager (SEPM), Graeme Morrison on the Area Board End of Year Report. The presentation included the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information regarding the composition of the Westbury Community Area and its population was provided.</li> <li>• Total Area Board investment was outlined as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community Grants: £47,148 – which leveraged a total community contribution of £136,887.</li> <li>○ Youth Grants: £25,784 – which leveraged a total community contribution of £131,369.</li> <li>○ Older and Vulnerable Adults funding: £14,800 – which leveraged a total community contribution of £45,681.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The SEPM provided an overview of the work completed under the previous local priorities that had been identified by the Area Board for 2022/2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combatting Social Isolation and Loneliness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Health and Wellbeing Group had continued to meet regularly and had been attended by several local groups to discuss various aspects of Health and Wellbeing in the community.</li> <li>○ There have been three tranches of the Digital Inclusion Programme, with positive feedback received and another tranche hoping to take place in Autumn.</li> <li>○ The Westbury Health and Wellbeing Event on 25 June 2023.</li> <li>○ Work is set to be completed with the Westbury Area Network on enabling them to make use of the Household Support Grant.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wellbeing for Young People and Positive Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Local Youth Network (LYN) was recently reestablished and has been attended by several local groups.</li> <li>○ The Westbury Young People Awards recently took place and was attended by over 200 people.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Local Environmental Action
  - The Pollinator Project had progressed well, with an overview of the work provided by Cllr Suzanne Wickham.
  - Phase 2 of the Bitham Brook project is set to take place, which was funded by a grant from the Area Board awarded to the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.
  - An initial meeting had taken place to help parishes look at ways to open footpaths and rights of way.
  
- Child Poverty
  - The Area Board funded 4Youth detached youth workers as well as other youth engagement projects.
  - The Area Board helped to part-fund a team for the Westbury Soapbox Derby.
  - Though the initial session wasn't well attended, an event in collaboration with Wiltshire College is hoped to take place in September to provide sessions on employability, basic maths, and English skills.
  - The Area Board funded an event on the day of the King's Coronation which took place in the Market Place and was free to attend.

The SEPM provided an overview of Area Board engagements as well as providing examples of projects that had been supported by the Area Board. It was recommended that the local priorities for the Area Board remain the same for the coming year.

## **Part II – Looking Forward**

The Chairman introduced Part II of the item, with reference drawn to the report attached to the agenda pack, which included an Outside Bodies Appendix and LHFIG Terms of Reference Appendix.

After which, it was;

### **Resolved:**

**That Westbury Area Board decided upon the following priorities it wished to focus on in the coming year:**

- **Combatting Social Isolation and Loneliness**
- **Wellbeing for Young People and Positive Activities**
- **Local Environmental Action**
- **Child Poverty**

	<p>That Westbury Area Board appointed the following lead Councillor for each of selected priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Combatting Social Isolation and Loneliness – Cllr Gordon King</b></li> <li>• <b>Wellbeing for Young People and Positive Activities – Cllr Carole King</b></li> <li>• <b>Local Environmental Action – Cllr Matt Dean</b></li> <li>• <b>Child Poverty – Cllr Suzanne Wickham</b></li> </ul> <p>That Westbury Area Board appointed the following Councillor Representatives to the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Westbury Local Youth Network (LYN) – Cllr Carole King</b></li> <li>• <b>Westbury Health and Wellbeing Forum (HWB) – Cllr Gordon King</b></li> <li>• <b>Westbury Ham Community Project (Eden Vale Youth Centre Project) – Cllr Matt Dean</b></li> <li>• <b>Warminster and Westbury CCTV – Cllr Matt Dean</b></li> </ul> <p>That Westbury Area Board appointed the following Councillor Representative to the Local Highways and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Westbury Area Board LHFIG – All Westbury Area Board Members</b></li> </ul> <p>That Westbury Area Board noted the Terms of Reference for the LHFIG as set out in Appendix B, attached to the agenda.</p>
10.	<p><u>Local Highways and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG)</u></p> <p>The Chairman introduced the minutes and recommendations from the LHFIG meeting held on 20 April 2023.</p> <p>After which, it was;</p> <p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b></p> <p><b>The minutes of the Local Highways and Footway Improvement Group meeting held on 20 April 2023 were agreed as a correct record as well as approving the spending recommendations within.</b></p>
11.	<p><u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>The Chairman informed the Area Board of the opening balances for grant funding. The Area Board considered the following applications for funding:</p>



	<p><b><u>Area Board Initiatives:</u></b></p> <p>Westbury Area Board - £1,312.50 towards Youth Pop Up Event Westbury.</p> <p>The Strategic Engagement Partnerships Manager informed those present that the amount requested had changed since the publication of the agenda and now stood at £543.50.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p> <p><b>Westbury Area Board was awarded £543.50 towards Youth Pop Up Event Westbury.</b></p> <p><b>Moved – Cllr Matt Dean</b>  <b>Seconded – Cllr Suzanne Wickham</b></p> <p><b><i>Reason – The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2023/24.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Community Area Grants:</u></b></p> <p>Cygnets Preschool of Bratton - £1,000 towards Cygnets Preschool Bratton phase 2 outside area development.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p> <p><b>Westbury Area Board agreed to defer awarding grant funding to Cygnets Preschool of Bratton and invited them to return to the Area Board with an alternative idea which could be funded.</b></p> <p><b>Moved – Cllr Gordon King</b>  <b>Seconded – Suzanne Wickham</b></p>
12.	<p><b><u>Urgent items</u></b></p> <p>There were no urgent items.</p>
13.	<p><b><u>Close</u></b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting is 3 October 2023.</p>

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**VOLUNTEERING MATTERS**

# Wiltshire Grandmentors 2022

**Ever thought about  
mentoring young people?**



We are seeking volunteer mentors aged 50+, to use their wisdom and experience to help young people face challenging situations as they prepare to exit care.

A Grandmentor meets with the young person on a regular basis to build a relationship based on trust and respect, boost self-confidence, encourage ambition and aspiration, and act as a positive role model.

No experience needed for this voluntary role; a willingness to help, life experience, humour, empathy, patience and community spirit.

**We are keen for diverse  
members of the  
community  
to apply for volunteer  
mentoring roles.**



**Interested? Contact: [lin.scott@volunteeringmatters.org.uk](mailto:lin.scott@volunteeringmatters.org.uk)  
Mobile: 07947 544350**

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# Grandmentors Programme

At Volunteering Matters, we bring people together overcome society's most complex issues, building stronger communities through the power of volunteering. We do this because stronger communities means that everyone has an opportunity to thrive.

## Grandmentors

Grandmentors, is an intergenerational mentoring project for care experienced young people. The outcomes for young people leaving care across the UK are poor. If young people are not engaged and supported to be autonomous, capable and empowered adults then there are many risk factors that could lead them to rely much more on statutory services and the local authority for support throughout their lives.

Volunteering Matters believes that this group of young people are amongst the strongest and most resilient in any community and that we all have a much larger role to play in unlocking these strengths and levelling up the playing field for care leavers.

This is through the skill of mentoring and through funding, enabling opportunities and opening up networks.

## National Evidence Relating to Care Leavers

There is a wealth of evidence that shows that care experienced young people experience significantly worse outcomes than the rest of the population:

- 30% of care leavers aged 18 are NEET. This increases to 39% of care leavers aged 19 to 21 and compares to a National average of 12% (Department for Education, 2019).
- Roughly one third of care leavers become homeless within the first two years of leaving the care system. Similarly, approximately a quarter of homeless people are care experienced (Home for Good, 2020).
- The Care Leavers Association, in conjunction with the Department for Health, surveyed care leavers in 2017. Their research found 'The health and wellbeing needs of care leavers of all ages are largely ignored'. After leaving care 83% of care leavers experienced low self-esteem, 79% experienced anxiety, 75% experienced Depression and 75% experienced loneliness (Care Leavers Association, 2017).



## Covid Snapshot

During Covid-19 lockdown 5 mentees started university and many of the young people volunteered in their community.

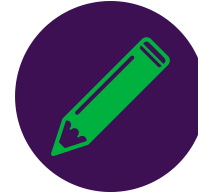
168 young people were supported through the Grandmentors programme during Covid-19.

## The Impact of Grandmentors

The outcomes for the mentees are closely tracked. Grandmentors projects place a support plan created by the young person with their mentor at the centre of tracking the changes mentees are making in their lives.

The framework covers three broad areas:

- Housing and Finance
- Education, Training and Employment
- Health and Wellbeing



In each area, there are a number of sub-indicators and, in discussion with the young person, these trigger volunteer support in those areas. The level of support required for the mentee is based on their views, Social Work colleagues' and our own assessment of their needs.

Movement through these are regularly reviewed as a live process between the mentor, mentee and the Volunteer Manager.

## Community Support

Volunteering Matters recruits, trains and supports volunteer mentors who use their skills and experience to provide bespoke mentoring for young people leaving care during their transition into adulthood and independence. No special skills or qualifications are needed for this voluntary role, just life experiences as well as a willingness to support someone who is need of a bit of help, for two hours a week.

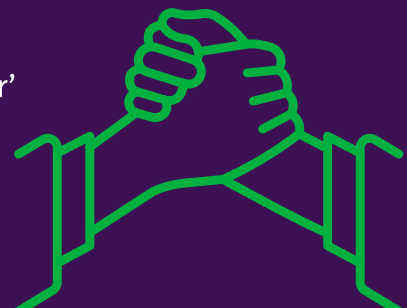
There are also other ways that the local community can play a significant role in enabling young people leaving care to achieve their potential. A key part of any Grandmentors project is to enable the wider community to engage with care leavers when they wouldn't have previously done so. The project has a number of ways that this can happen:

- Sitting on the local Board
- Hosting or supporting a soft matching event of mentees and mentors
- Providing employment or apprenticeship opportunities
- Opening networks and contacts to mentees
- Funding or donations

'When I see her (my mentor) I just feel less anxious. She's the reason I go out of the house'  
- Mentee

'His self-belief and focus have gone through the roof..... I couldn't be prouder'  
- Mentor

'I feel we are both getting a lot out of mento'  
- Mentor



## Where Does Grandmentors Operate?

Grandmentors currently operates in 10 locations in England:

- Bradford
- Brent
- Hounslow
- Islington
- Milton Keynes
- Suffolk
- Wandsworth
- Wiltshire
- Wolverhampton
- Warwickshire



New projects are coming on board all the time.

## Awards and Accolades

Grandmentors has had widespread acclaim. This includes being winning the Third Sector category at the National Mentoring Awards in 2019. The programme was also featured in the Innovation Zone at the Local Government Association conference of the same year.



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