

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** South West Wiltshire Area Board  
**Place:** Online Meeting  
**Date:** 15 September 2021  
**Start Time:** 6.30 pm  
**Finish Time:** 9.00 pm

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Bridget Wayman (Chairman), Cllr Nabil Najjar (Vice-Chairman) and Cllr Pauline Church

## **Officers Present:**

Dominic Argar, Assistant Multimedia Officer  
Karen Linaker, Community Engagement Manager  
Lisa Moore, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Diane Ware, Principal Technical Officer for Highways  
Matt Hitch, Democratic Services Officer

## **Partners Present:**

OPCC - PCC Philip Wilkinson,  
Police Inspector Tina Osborn  
Police Inspector Al Lumley

**Total in attendance: 34**

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<b><u>Minute No.</u></b>	<b><u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u></b>
22	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman, Cllr Bridget Wayman, welcomed everyone to the meeting of the South West Wiltshire Area Board. Members and officers introduced themselves.</p>
23	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Nick Errington</li> <li>• Cllr George Jeans</li> </ul>
24	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
25	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 30 June, were agreed as a true and correct record.</b></p>
26	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman explained that the legislation allowing local authorities to take public meetings and decisions online was not extended past 6 May 2021. Area Boards held online after this date would need to have any funding decisions ratified through the Leader Delegated Decision process before funding could be released.</p> <p>Cllr Pauline Church joined the meeting at around 6:44pm. However, as decisions were being ratified by the Leader, the meeting was able to get underway at 6:30pm with two councillors present.</p>
27	<p><u>Police &amp; Crime Commissioner</u></p> <p>The newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Swindon and Wiltshire, Phillip Wilkinson, provided some background information about his career, as well as what he saw as his key priorities. The PCC reiterated that he came from a rural community and would bring his experience working on inter agency plans and as a military special forces officer to the role. He stressed that rural crime was his top priority, given its links to serious organised crime, County Lines and wider drug related issues.</p> <p><u>Other points covered included</u></p>

- New mobile speed cameras.
- Increased dialogue with communities.
- He urged the community to take part in the consultation on the annual Police and Crime Plan.

During the course of the discussion the key points raised were:

- Members welcomed the bottom-up approach and opportunity for further engagement.
- The public asked questions about what could be done to better utilise the data from speed indicator devices (SIDs) and how the available information could be retained and coordinated. The PCC stated that his office would coordinate the Speed Watch teams more effectively and that there was currently a lack of oversight.
- Members pressed the PCC on enforcement action and whether they could expect a proactive response where speeding hot spots had been identified. The PCC stressed the effectiveness of the new camera that he had recently purchased and pledged to purchase another two, so that they could be deployed in the areas of greatest need.
- The relative merits of fixed and mobile cameras were discussed. The PCC confirmed that the fines from mobile cameras could be retained by his office whereas the fines from fixed cameras would be sent to central government. He also stated that he was not minded to invest in fixed cameras because of their higher procurement cost. He noted that mobile cameras were more effective because speeders would not always know where they were.
- The PCC also stressed that cameras were required to be of a certain quality to provide sufficient evidence for a successful prosecution, so deploying cheap fixed cameras would not be effective.
- In response to comments from the public that they rarely saw the police, the PCC noted that lots of crime was committed after dark and that given all of their competing priorities, it was important to target resources in the way in which they would be most effective.
- When asked about his views on opening a new custody suite in Salisbury, the PCC said that he did share concerns about the facilities at Bourne Hill and felt that the building limited capacity to respond of serious offences. He reported that he had held discussions with the Leader of Salisbury Council and had asked the Chief Constable about operational requirements, both with and without a custody suite. He noted that a decision would be made once he had a firmer idea of operational requirements and would be contingent on budget and the available property in the area.
- Concerns were raised from Dinton Parish Council that their Speed Watch team had caught someone speeding at 63mph in a 30mph zone and that they had had limited feedback from the police. In response the PCC emphasised that cameras would be targeted at hot spots and reiterated the importance of feedback in informing priorities.

### Warminster CPT

Inspector Al Lumley provided an update from Warminster CPT (Mere & Tisbury), which covered most of the South West Wiltshire Area Board. Inspector Lumley compared Warminster figures with the rest of Wiltshire, noting that there were very similar overall trends. In 64 percent of stop and search cases no items were found, which was in line with the Wiltshire average.

He then identified four key priorities for the area:

- Speed enforcement was a particular issue due to the rural road network. It was seen as a priority to support Speed Watch teams.
- Inappropriate use of E scooters was becoming an issue, so there a focus on education and targeting persistent offenders.
- There was a focus on rural crime as, during harvest, there had been a spike in the theft of GPS equipment.
- Concerns existed about an increase in catalytic convertor theft given that they were a particular focus of criminal gangs in rural locations.

### Salisbury CPT

Inspector Tina Osborn, spoke about the priorities for the part of the Area Board covered by Salisbury CPT.

The key points raised were:

- Speeding was a key focus with increased patrols in Netherhampton Road in Harnham as well as The Avenue in Wilton.
- E scooters were also identified as an issue, as they had been in the Warminster CPT.
- Proactive operations had been carried out with other police forces to combat rural crime.
- The coming months were likely to see an increase in poaching and hare coursing, so visibility in rural areas was due to be increased.

In response to questions about whether a team could be deployed in Dinton to support the Speed Watch team, the inspector stated that they would get out to support the team if capacity allowed. Dinton was covered by Amesbury CPT but Inspector Osbourn also worked in that CPT.

### Youth Update

Community Engagement Manager (CEM) Karen Linaker spoke about plans for a programme of activities in the autumn and the Christmas holidays as part of the FUEL Programme. She also noted that each Area Board was running a youth survey throughout September and October in order to get the views of as many young people as possible.

	<p>Jakki Farrell, from the charity Seeds4Success, provided an update on the FUEL Programme, a free holiday activity and food project run during school holidays throughout 2021. She noted that they worked with Mere School and Mere Foodbank to run a series of activities throughout the summer. Whilst priority was given to those pupils needing free school meals, activities were also open to other pupils. The activities, heavily assisted by young leaders, ran for four days per week over four weeks. Between 67 and 77 pupils attended each week. In total 36 different pupils took part in the scheme that had one of, free school meals, an EHCP, or were a Child Looked After. It had not yet been confirmed whether the scheme would be repeated in 2022 but Jakki was encouraged that lots of new young people were coming forward.</p> <p>On top of this, events had continued to be run through the Local Youth Action Scheme, including clearing footpaths. The children participating in this scheme had also enjoyed a reward day at Alton Towers. It was reported that the first face to face session of the new LGBTQ+ Group had also taken place at Burcombe Village Hall and future sessions would be arranged for the third Wednesday of each month.</p> <p><u>Ash Dieback</u></p> <p>The Chairman drew the Area Board’s attention to documents in the agenda pack relating to the issue of Ash Dieback. She pointed out that further useful information about tree planting was available on the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) website. An informative video has also been circulated with the minutes, see below:</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&amp;v=fY-vnm7yAfQ&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&amp;v=fY-vnm7yAfQ&amp;feature=youtu.be</a></p>
29	<p><u>Highways 5 Year Maintenance Programme</u></p> <p>Diane Ware, Principal Technical Officer for Highways, referred the Area Board to the draft of the maintenance plan and explained that the final version would be published around March/April 2022. Given that the aim was to get all of Wiltshire’s roads to similar condition and due to the relatively poor condition of its roads, the South West Wiltshire Area Board area had been allocated over £1 million more than the average Area Board over the five years to 2026/27. In order to catch roads before they deteriorate quickly, early intervention would be necessary. In some cases it may appear that roads in reasonable condition were being prioritised but by replacing the surface course, rather than digging up the whole road, less carbon would be emitted. The officer noted that further information was available on the Council’s website and that she would welcome feedback about the post 2022-23 priority list.</p> <p>The Area Board welcomed the fact that South West Wiltshire was seen as a priority given that it had more miles of road than any other Area Board in the</p>

	<p>county. They pledged to consider the plan in greater detail and encouraged participation from parishes.</p>
30	<p><u>Area Board Action Plan &amp; Priorities</u></p> <p>The CEM provided an update on the progress made towards the six priority areas identified by the Area Board in their action plan. She also reassured the attendees that the plan could be amended as new priorities were identified. The progress towards the goals so far included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning a Health &amp; Wellbeing event at Langford Lakes on 29 September, including with support from the local church.</li> <li>• Get Out Get Active had started at Chalke Valley Sports Centre and had received lots of interest.</li> <li>• Steady progress had been made on the Make A Friend, Be A Friend Project, an older people's isolation project. As the focus had been on getting older people to attend social clubs progress had been limited by Covid-19.</li> <li>• The Wilton activities in the Silver Salisbury outreach programme 2021 were due to start in September and had received funding from the Area Board.</li> <li>• The first year of the Celebrating Age Programme had been very successful.</li> <li>• The first LGBTQ+ event for young people had been held in Burcombe Village Hall.</li> <li>• Cllr Nick Errington had led the first of the Area Board's Health and Wellbeing meetings the previous week. At the meeting proposals for strengthening and increasing the number of local dementia support groups and activities were discussed.</li> </ul>
31	<p><u>Eco Friendly Villages Event Update</u></p> <p>As the Area Board's lead member for the environment, Cllr Nabil Najjar, gave a presentation about an online Eco Villages event held in July 2021 by parish councils and other local partners. The key aim was to refine how the Area Board could help support community led eco-friendly initiatives by sharing best practice.</p> <p>Cllr Najjar set the context by providing background information about Wiltshire Council's two environmental strategies, the Climate Strategy and the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. The core aim of the Climate strategy was to make Wiltshire Council carbon neutral by 2030 through measures such as providing cleaner transport, cutting waste, moving to more sustainable energy sources and a focus on the green economy. The Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy focused more on the natural environment, such as sustainable farming and resource management. As both strategies were out for consultation, Cllr Najjar encouraged people to attend engagement events.</p> <p>As an Area Board they were looking to work with parishes as well as with other groups, such as Nadder Community Energy, to build upon the county wide strategies. As such, Cllr Najjar encouraged people to come forward to share innovative ideas so they could help shape local priorities.</p>

	<p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>The South West Wiltshire Area Board noted the draft Climate Change and Green and Blue Infrastructure strategies and urged residents, organisations and businesses across the Tisbury, Wilton and Mere Community Areas to contribute to the consultations ahead of the closing date of 17 October 2021.</b></p>
32	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG) Update</u></p> <p>The Board noted the minutes from the last meeting held on 25 August 2021 and considered the recommendations for funding, as detailed in the agenda pack.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>To approve the recommendations for CATG funding asset out in the report.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6a - £7,300 - Quidhampton bid</li> <li>• 6d - £1,875 – speed limit assessment at The Avenue, Wilton.</li> <li>• 9a - £240 – unsuitable HGV sign at Sutton Mandeville</li> <li>• 9b - £202.50 and £375 - sign and nameplate in Sutton Mandeville</li> <li>• 9c - £457.50 - unsuitable HGV sign in Swallowcliffe</li> </ul>
33	<p><u>Area Board Pedestrian Gate Scheme - Update</u></p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>To amend the wording of the Pedestrian Gate Scheme to confirm that there was up to £1,500 available per parish council in 2021/22 for an unlimited number of gates, with parish council match funding.</b></p>
34	<p><u>Area Board Funding</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the funding applications as detailed in the reports attached to the agenda. Applicants in attendance were invited to speak in support of their projects and answer any questions that arose.</p> <p><u>Area Board Initiative</u></p> <p><u>Young People’s Event at Mill on the Brue requesting £3,500</u></p> <p>The Chairman spoke introduced the Area Board Initiative.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>The Area Board awarded £3,500 to support the young people’s event at Mill on the Brue.</b></p>

**Reason**

**The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22**

**Community Area Grants**

**Fovant Youth Club requesting £4,000**

A representative from the Youth Club spoke in support of the project, saying that a disabled access toilet would enable them to increase inclusivity.

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded £4,000 to support Fovant Youth Club towards a disabled access toilet.**

**Reason**

**The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22**

**Semley Village Hall requesting £5,000**

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded Semley Village Hall £5,000 towards audio/visual equipment.**

**Reason**

**The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22**

**Fovant Parish Council requesting £4,430**

The Parish Clerk from Fovant Parish Council spoke in favour of the scheme, which he felt would allow for better data collection than existing devices.

During the discussion it was noted that speed indicator devices of this type would not be affordable for every community. However, given that road safety was an issue for villages near to the A30, and that the project would be useful in developing best practice, they felt that the information from the project could benefit other parishes within the Area Board.

**Decision**

**The Area Board Awarded Fovant Parish Council £4,430 towards three speed indicator devices.**

**Reason**

**The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22**

**Alzheimer's Support – requesting £2,500**

The Chief Executive of Alzheimer's Support spoke in support of their application for funding to help deliver a new dementia centre to serve South West Wiltshire. She noted that their existing centres were located elsewhere in the county. The new centre would include a day care as well as providing an office base for dementia advisers and other support staff.

During the discussion the following points were raised:

- Members asked how the centre would benefit residents within the Area Board given that the centre was located in Salisbury and that parts of the South West Wiltshire Area Board were closer to Warminster, the site of one of their existing centres, than Salisbury. In response the Chief Executive explained that the centre in Salisbury would support a large portion of the Area Board's population. To evidence this she noted that they were currently supporting 40 people in the South West Wiltshire geographical area living outside of central Salisbury. She also expected that the number of people being supported would increase if the new centre was established.
- The Chief Executive confirmed that a roving model would not be deliverable given the length of appointments and the infrastructure required to offer day care.
- In response to questions about alternative sources of funding, the Chief Executive confirmed that they had approached local partners including both Salisbury and Southern Wiltshire Area Boards. It was also possible to access match funding from the lottery.
- Members noted that they would be interested to receive updates on the number of people being supported by the project.

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded £2,500 to Alzheimer's Support to put towards developing a Dementia Centre Outreach Office in Salisbury.**

**Reason**

**The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22**

**Health and Wellbeing Grants**

**Celebrate Voice Community Interest Company (CIC) – requesting £500**

The Director of Celebrate Voice Festival spoke in support of their application by saying that the Gala would be a free, sociable event for older people and would be beneficial to their wellbeing.

	<p><b>Decision</b></p> <p>The Area Board awarded £500 to a Celebrate Voice CIC towards their festival event, Celebrating Age Gala.</p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b> <b><u>The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22</u></b></p> <p><u>Mere Bowls Club – requesting £1,056.82</u></p> <p>The Captain of Mere Bowls Club explained that they were a small club providing physical and social activity for their 61 members. The funding would be put towards refurbishing their facilities and to replace those beyond repair. It was also noted that Cllr George Jeans, not present at the meeting, was a non-playing member of the club.</p> <p>Members did note that they were generally supportive of the scheme, although they did have reservations about using health and wellbeing to fund some of the requested items, such as garden furniture.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p>The Area Board awarded £500 of a requested £1,056.82 to improve infrastructure at Mere Bowls Club.</p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b> <b><u>The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22</u></b></p> <p><u>Wiltshire Music Centre – requesting £1,500</u></p> <p>The Creative Producer of Celebrating Age Wiltshire spoke in support of their application, explaining that they had helped many older people communities throughout the Area Board. Earlier on in the day they had delivered a pop-up show at Albany House Care Home in Tisbury about Florence Nightingale.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p>The Area Board awarded £1,500 to Wiltshire Music Centre to put towards their Celebrating Age Wiltshire project.</p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b> <b><u>The application met the funding criteria for 2021/22</u></b></p>
35	<p><u>Close</u></p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Area Board would be on</p>

Wednesday 15 December at 6:30pm.

Note:

The deadline for funding requests is 4 weeks prior to the meeting date, please contact [karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk) for further information.