

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** Salisbury Area Board  
**Place:** The Guildhall, Market Place, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 1JH  
**Date:** 10 November 2021  
**Start Time:** 6.00 pm  
**Finish Time:** 7.30 pm

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Brian Dalton (Chairman), Cllr Sven Hocking (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Caroline Corbin, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cllr Charles McGrath, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Paul Sample JP and Cllr Mary Webb

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Jacqui Abbott – Community Engagement Manager (CEM), Stonehenge  
Karlene Jammeh – Community Engagement Manager (CEM), Salisbury  
Frank Cain – Head of Legal Services  
Lisa Alexander – Acting Senior Democratic Services Officer

### **Partners**

Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service – Wayne Presley, Group Manager

**Total in attendance: 22**

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<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
44	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman, Cllr Brian Dalton read an opening statement, regarding the requirement to reschedule the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>The Head of Legal Services, Frank Cain clarified the process behind the Officer decision and the reason why the meeting had been moved forward.</p> <p>Members of the Board discussed the matter, with one Member querying the cost involved in rescheduling the meeting to an in person one as opposed to online.</p> <p>Members and Officers introduced themselves.</p> <p>Anne Trevett gave an update on the previously funded, St John's Place in Bemerton, which had recently been featured on the Sunday Morning Live broadcast on BBC1, as part of a national discussion regarding maintaining and bringing churches back in to use. Anne noted that a total of £750k had been raised to save St John's Place.</p>
45	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police – Inspector Tina Osborn</li> <li>• Fire – Station Manager Matthew Maggs – represented by Wayne Presley</li> </ul>
46	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The minutes of two previous meetings held on 12 July &amp; 30 September 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>
47	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>In relation to item 10 – Community Funding – Application from the Milford Preservation Group – Cllr Charles McGrath noted that he was a committee member of the Group and stated that he would not take part in the vote on that application.</p>

48	<p><u>Chairman's Updates</u></p> <p>The Chairman noted that his thoughts were with those involved with the Salisbury Train Crash which had taken place earlier that week.</p>
49	<p><u>Information items</u></p> <p>The Board noted the information items which were detailed in the agenda pack, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Healthwatch Wiltshire update</li> <li>b) Clinical Commissioning Group update</li> <li>c) WC Information Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to Wiltshire's Taxi Tariffs</li> <li>• Leisure Centres transfer to Wiltshire Council</li> <li>• Youth Council update</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
50	<p><u>Partner and Community Updates</u></p> <p>The Board noted the written partner updates which had been uploaded to the website as a supplement and heard from those present:</p> <p><u>An introduction from Karlene Jammeh – New Salisbury Community Engagement Manager (CEM)</u></p> <p>Karlene was just 3 days into her new post as Salisbury CEM, however had been working in Sports Developments for Wiltshire Council since 2009 and Salisbury District Council prior to that, for a total of 19 years. Through this work Karlene already had many good connections with local community groups. Thanks were given to Jacqui Abbott (CEM for Stonehenge Area) for her support.</p> <p><u>Salisbury City Council (SCC) – Cllr Annie Riddle</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 3 groups that were forming the Administration were working well together.</li> <li>• The Remembrance Parade would take place on Sunday 14 November, at the War Memorial for the 11am silence.</li> <li>• Christmas preparation was underway – the lights switch on was scheduled for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November.</li> <li>• There would also be a Christmas tree trail around the city and a Santa Wonderland in the square. Further details of all could be found on the experience Salisbury website.</li> </ul>

- Communities and groups were already working towards events for next year, including the Jubilee celebrations.
- Community grants continued to be available
- The first meeting with Salisbury Place Board had taken place, which was represented by Victoria Charleston
- Thanks were given to the emergency services, transport police, and Network Rail – for their work last week and to pass on best wishes to anyone still affected by that.
- Annual budget plans still underway.
- The Salisbury Neighbourhood Plan was a huge piece of work underway Cllr Riddle was the Chairperson of the Steering Group, she confirmed that the public would be consulted at all stages of the process.

#### Police

Inspector Tina Osborn had given her apologies for the meeting. The Chairman noted that the written update was available online and Tina's verbal update had been provided and is attached to the minutes.

#### Fire

Wayne Presley, Group Manager for the Wiltshire Group was in attendance. He was responsible for overseeing 19 fire stations. The written update was available online in the supplement. In addition, the following points were covered:

- On-call and wholetime Officer recruitment was ongoing
- A presentation on Spectra would be provided at the next AB meeting.
- The Fire & Rescue services had been working closely with other services on the train tunnel incident.
- The Safe and Well initiative was back out in the community, offering home visits and advice.

The Board gave thanks to the Fire & Rescue and the Police teams for their response in the incident in Fisherton train tunnel, noting that it had been a wonderful demonstration in the way people could come together to solve a problem.

**Action: The Chairman agreed to formally write a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board, to all of the staff involved in the Salisbury rail crash.**

51	<p><u>Police and Crime Plan Consultation and Precept questions survey</u></p> <p>The Board showed a short video on the Police &amp; Crime Plan consultation which was running from 18 October – 14 November 2021 and urged people to take part in the online survey which could be accessed via a link on the agenda.</p>
52	<p><u>Underpass Working Group - Update</u></p> <p>At the last meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021, the Area Board agreed to form an Underpass Working Group, which would be led by Cllr’s Paul Sample and Sven Hocking.</p> <p>Cllr Sample noted that a group had not yet been set up and that a meeting would take place in the coming weeks with the newly appointed CEM and the other Lead member Cllr hocking to discuss the way forward.</p> <p>Cllr Hocking noted that there had been some input from WC Officers and Highways England and drew attention to the map which had been uploaded to the online agenda, detailing some of the underpasses.</p>
53	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG)</u></p> <p>The Board noted the report from the last CATG meeting held the previous day, which had been uploaded to the website as a supplement.</p> <p>The board noted a predicted reduction to the future Highways Maintenance budget of £6m, however this was based on estimates from Central Government and was not yet confirmed.</p> <p>The recommendations for funding were shown on the screen for consideration.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Board approved the funding recommendations of the CATG meeting held on 9 November 2021, summarised below:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4c - £6,000 – improvements to Bishopdown Estate</b></li> <li>• <b>5b - £6,810 – A345 coombe Road, pedestrian crossing</b></li> <li>• <b>6b - £2,500 – 20 mph speed limit, Fugglestone Red</b></li> </ul>
54	<p><u>Community Funding</u></p> <p>The Board considered funding requests as set out in the agenda. Applicants in attendance were invited to briefly present their projects, followed by an opportunity for questions.</p>

**Community Area Grants:**

**Milford Preservation Group – Milford Hollow Rewilding Project - £800**

Applicant David Lovibond presented the application.

The Group had been going for over 40 years, the last 3 years had been very active. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase had already been completed, phase 2 would take place in the spring.

Cllr McGrath refrained from voting due to his earlier declaration but urge the Board to support the project.

The full amount was moved by Cllr Hocking and seconded by Cllr Corbin.

**Decision**

**The Milford Preservation Group was awarded £800 towards the Milford Hollow Rewilding Project.**

***Reason***

***The application met the grants criteria for 2021/22.***

**Underground Studios CIC – Studios Music project- £4,987.12**

Applicant Alexander Mobaraki presented the application for fun, safe and accessible professional musical activities with tutors and instruments.

The marketing of the service and the approach in comparison with that of the previous tenants was discussed.

The full amount was moved by Cllr Rogers and seconded by Cllr Hocking.

**Decision**

**The Underground Studios CIC was awarded £4,987.12 towards the Studios Music project**

***Reason***

***The application met the grants criteria for 2021/22.***

**Parochial Church Council of Harnham St George and All Saints – Green Heating for Harnham Hub - £5,000**

Applicant Charles Wood presented the application.

This was a multi-phase project, working with Harnham Community Network. Hall owned by the parish.

The first stage of the project was to replace an ineffective heating system with an under-floor heat system with heat pumps and the replacement of a new kitchen in an alternative location of the building.

Questions around the option of knocking the old building down and starting again arose, where it was clarified that although that option had been

considered, as the structure of the building was still in good condition, the preferred and cheaper option was to re-cycle and improve.

Whether the proposed heat pumps would be adequate to warm the building was asked, where the Board was assured that as the second phase included re-roofing and re-insulating, the combined works as a whole would be adequate.

The Board invited the applicant to return and provide an update once the works were complete.

The full amount was moved by Cllr Sample and seconded by Cllr Rogers.

**Decision**

**The Parochial Church Council of Harnham St George and All Saints was awarded £5000 towards Green Heating for Harnham Hub**

***Reason***

***The application met the grants criteria for 2021/22.***

**Health & Wellbeing Grants:**

**Harnham Day Centre – Keep Fit Classes £720**

Applicant David Paterson presented the application which would provide 25 elderly people in their 80s with chair based keep fit classes for 2 sessions a month for 30 min workout.

The full amount was moved by Cllr Corbin and seconded by Cllr Sample.

**Decision**

**Harnham Day Centre was awarded £720 towards Keep Fit Classes**

***Reason***  
***The application met the grants criteria for 2021/22.***

**Youth Funding:**

**Wessex Archaeology Ltd – Well City Salisbury Youth Classes - £4994**

Applicant Leigh Chalmers presented the application.

This was a partnership project between Wessex Archaeology, Wiltshire Creative, Art Care and Salisbury Museum which had been worked towards for 3 years. In May the project had been awarded £216k of Lottery Community funding.

Each aspect delivered would be 8 weeks long, with 24 creative, and 8 volunteer mentoring courses.

Wiltshire creative had been developing the project for a number of years.

The full amount was moved by Cllr Corbin and seconded by Cllr McGrath.

	<p>The Board noted that on this occasion, its panel of young people had not been able to consider the funding proposal, which would usually be the case for all Youth funding application, where possible. Cllr Rogers, youth Lead Cllr asked that the CEM feedback to the young people at the next meeting the outcome of the application.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Wessex Archaeology Ltd was awarded £4994 towards Well City Salisbury Youth Classes</b></p> <p><b><i>Reason</i></b>  <b><i>The application met the grants criteria for 2021/22.</i></b></p> <p><u>Community Engagement Manager (CEM) Delegated Authority Funding</u>  The Board was asked to formally note an award made under CEM Delegated powers, as detailed in the agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Board noted the award of £640 to Safer &amp; Supportive Salisbury which had been made under CEM Delegated Authority in October 2021, due to urgency.</b></p> <p>Anne Trevett – noted that the event was in partnership with Salisbury Soroptimists and would take place on November 18<sup>th</sup>, adding that the end result would be the production of an action plan.</p> <p>Anne was invited to provide an update at the next Area Board meeting following the conference.</p>
55	<p><b><u>Close</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and noted that the next meeting of the Salisbury Area Board would be held on Thursday 10 March 2022.</p>
<u>attachments</u>	



Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am Councillor Brian Dalton, the Chair of the Salisbury Area Board.

Normally it would be my pleasure in welcoming you, our Wiltshire Council Officers and my fellow Area Board Councillors here. But there is nothing normal about tonight's meeting.

It has been called early not by me or my fellow Councillors to deal with an item of business that could not wait the few weeks to our next scheduled meeting. We have also been required to meet in person despite soaring levels of Covid infections, when other Wiltshire Council meetings are being held virtually in line with the very sensible guidance issued just two weeks ago by our Legal Director to all Councillors, staff and City and Town councils to minimise the risks to public health.

All of us have a duty of care to the health and well-being of each other and particularly the most vulnerable members of our communities.

That is why these virtual meetings have continued to happen, to enable the important functions of this and all other Area Boards to be carried out. In particular, the spending wisely of public money; your money, to back important community initiatives to support our young people, promote community wellbeing, make grants to capital projects to benefit our area and help fund initiatives to enhance our roads, pavements and footpaths to improve safety.

Our Council's rules are clear, that any decisions taken at our virtual meetings can be ratified by the Leader of the Council. That has been common practice across Wiltshire for the last 18 months or so during this pandemic. It is a system that has worked well.

So there is absolutely no need for us to be here tonight, putting the health of everyone at risk by requiring us to be physically here, at a financial cost of some £500 of Council taxpayers money to hire this room, excluding officer costs and travel.

Nor is there an urgent or pressing community need for any decision to be taken tonight that could not have waited until our scheduled meeting in a few weeks' time on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, or to have been dealt with under the procedures of virtual meetings that I have just outlined.

The fact that we are here is a serious matter for many reasons.

Our Area Boards are an important part of our democracy. Their existence acknowledges the sheer scale of Wiltshire as a single tier County administration. Respect for Area Board's devolved decision making, recognises the importance of the needs of local communities like ours in Salisbury, that is different to those of our more rural neighbours. In this context, the Council has prided itself rightly on the autonomy of each Area Board to define its own priorities and ways of working, safeguarded by the Council's Constitution and the law of the land.

Requiring us to be here in person tonight flies in the face of these important principles. It is also an affront to common sense and a serious breach of the need to safeguard the health and wellbeing of all present in this very serious pandemic, that is far from over.

Common-sense would have guided this Government to have extended the rules beyond May to

allow virtual meetings to count in the attendance records of Councillors. They were foolish enough to scrap those rule changes that had applied at the start of the pandemic.

Common-sense and good governance would have allowed any Leader of any Group of Councillors, to have requested at a full Council meeting a leave of absence for any Councillor, who for good reasons of their own health, was struggling to attend physical meetings.

The granting of such a leave of absence happened twice in our last Council. It prevents the automatic removal of a Councillor who fails to attend a Council meeting for six months, usually the case is serious illness. We have just had such a full Council meeting. No such request was made. Nor was a request made at that council meeting, to add the cllr as a sub for the southern area planning cttee, which is meeting right here, tomorrow. That cllr could have then attended this meeting tomorrow, without issue. And that item, could have been added at no notice, on the agenda.

But, moving an Area Board or any other council meeting at public tax-payer expense, is not the way to deal with this. The public should not be funding this in any way. This just adds to the incompetence of the recent re-run of the police and crime commissioner election debacle, which cost the Wiltshire council taxpayer £1.5M. In all my years as a councillor, I have never known meetings to be moved, especially over the head of its Chairman, just to save a cllr being barred. It is unprecedented and must never happen again.

Many Councillors present at that recent full council meeting, were subsequently "pinged", to warn them that they had been potentially exposed to the Covid 19 infection, so underscoring the risks and dangers of such physical meetings like this one.

Frankly, I am angry that we are here this evening and without my permission to move this meeting. We should not be in this room at this time and in these circumstances and at additional cost to the local taxpayer.

Thank you.

Police update

**The good news stories / updates are as follows:**

“Two Rural Ops were carried out throughout October where the Neighbourhood Team, assisted by the Rural Crime Team, Special Police Constables and Traffic Officers carried out targeted patrols in our rural communities. These were aimed at deterring criminal activity, catching offenders and providing an increased visible presence to our rural areas.

A National County Lines intensification week was held in October and Salisbury Neighbourhood Team played an active part in this. We made repeat visits to a number of vulnerable individuals in our community. These included some who had been cuckooed previously and some who were deemed at risk of being cuckooed. These were important safeguarding visits and also allowed further intelligence on County Lines activity in our area to be gathered. This intelligence will now be reviewed and acted on where possible.

The Salisbury Cadets assisted the Salisbury Neighbourhood Team with a successful leaflet drop in and around Bemerton Heath just before Halloween, delivering ‘No Trick or Treat’ leaflets to residents. Over 250 leaflets were delivered to homes.

Most recently the team have been supporting our colleagues from British Transport Police and working closely with Network Rail, Wiltshire Council and Salisbury City Council in supporting the operation following the terrible train crash a couple of weeks ago. We have been involved in a number of community consultations regarding this and I would like to thank the public for their continued support and understanding regarding the road closure and the knock on affects this had had on local residents and the wider community.

I would also like to update that we will be having 2 new PC’s joining the neighbourhood team in the next couple of weeks. These Are PC Nicola Clark who will be the city centre and Friary officer and PC Pete Jung who will be the neighbourhood officer for Castle Road, Bishopdown, Alderbury, Laverstock & Old Sarum. PC Caroline Ralph who has been covering the City Centre and Friary area will be covering the Bemerton Heath, St Paul’s and Churchfield area. Both Nicola and Pete are local officers who know the area well and come to the team with previous knowledge and experience of working within the neighbourhood policing team.”

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