

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** South West Wiltshire Area Board  
**Place:** Wilton Community Centre, West Street, Wilton, SP2 0DG  
**Date:** 28 February 2024  
**Start Time:** 6.30 pm  
**Finish Time:** 8.56 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Pauline Church, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr Nabil Najjar (Chairman) and Cllr Bridget Wayman (Vice-Chairman)

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Karen Linaker – Strategic Engagement & Partnership Manager  
Stuart Honeyball – Director of Business Transformation (allocated to the Area Board)  
Matthew Hitch – Democratic Services Officer

**Total in attendance: 60**

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<u>Minute No..</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson</li> <li>• Inspector Louise Oakley (Warminster CPT)</li> <li>• Tony Mears (NHS Foundation Trust)</li> </ul>
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Cllr Pauline Church declared a non-registerable interest in relation to agenda item 12, that recommendation 4c from the latest meeting of the Local Highway and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG) involved the installation of a bollard that would help to protect her shop from potential damage that could be caused by heavy goods vehicles. Cllr Church would not vote on, or participate in, the debate on this LHFIG recommendation.</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 November 2023. The Chairman reported that Cllr Richard Budden had raised a comment in relation to minute item 48 regarding the description of the very poor condition of roads to/from Gutch Common and in the Donheads.</p> <p>On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as true and correct record, subject to an amendment to minute item 48 that the below bullet point:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Potholds between the Donheads</i></b></li> </ul> <p><b>Be replaced with:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>The very poor condition of roads to/from Gutch Common and in the Donheads more generally.</i></b></li> </ul>
4	<p><u>Chairman's Updates</u></p> <p>The Chairman gave the following updates on outcomes and actions since the last meeting:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about how to become an emergency foster carer and details about forthcoming fostering events were available <a href="#">online</a>.</li> <li>• On 20 February Wiltshire Council had approved its annual budget of just over £490 million.</li> </ul>
5	<p><u>Information Items</u></p> <p>The Area Board noted the information items as set out in the agenda pack, these were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Local Nature Recovery Strategy Consultation for Swindon and Wiltshire (pg. 25-26) was being consulted on by ecologists before going out for public consultation in the summer.</li> <li>• The Wiltshire Council Cultural Strategy (2024-2030) survey was open online until 24 March. This was the first time that Wiltshire had proposed a shared cultural strategy. See Agenda Supplement 1 for further details.</li> </ul>
6	<p><u>PCC and Police Update</u></p> <p>Perry Payne from Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership gave a detailed overview of their work. He explained that the group was partnership led, being comprised of a number of organisations including Wiltshire Police, Wiltshire Council and South West Ambulance Service. Key points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group focussed on education as well as enforcement. A key area of focus was on the so called fatal five causes of road traffic incidents, including 'phone use.</li> <li>• Thanks were given to local Community Speed Watch volunteers.</li> <li>• Before speed watches could begin surveys were undertaken to establish whether it was safe for volunteers to be close to the road. Wiltshire Police undertook surveys in areas deemed to be unsafe for Speed Watch volunteers.</li> <li>• Since July 2020 4,904 letters had been sent to drivers about speeding within the Area Board's area, with 382 people going on speed awareness courses. 15 people had had to attend court due to speeding offences within the Area Board's area.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr George Jeans arrived at 6:40pm.</p> <p>During the discussion, points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Area Board thanked Mr Payne for his update.</li> <li>• Chris Rothwell, Clerk at Broad Chalke Parish Council, sought further information on which Speed Indicator Devices were able to provide</li> </ul>

information to inform the Wiltshire Police database and be used to support prosecutions. It was noted that [Sarah.Holden@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:Sarah.Holden@wiltshire.police.uk) would be able to provide further information.

- Simon Barkham, Chairman of Donhead St Andrew Parish Council, asked about the link between safety and potholes. In response, it was noted that there could be safety issues if flat tyres were caused. Mr Payne encouraged residents to report potholes through [MyWilts](#).
- Cllr Pauline Church noted that she had been lobbying the Police and Crime Commissioner for continued speed enforcement work along The Avenue in Wilton. She noted that The Avenue was the road in Wiltshire where the greatest amount of enforcement action had taken place.

It was noted that written updates were available from Amesbury Community Police Team (pg.27-28), Salisbury Community Police Team (pg. 29-38) and Warminster Community Police Team (pg.39-52).

#### Amesbury Community Police Team

Inspector Ricky Lee provided a verbal update on behalf of Amesbury Community Police Team. During the discussion, points included:

- The Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable had been driving improvements in Wiltshire Police.
- The response teams in Wiltshire Police had adopted a new shift pattern, with fewer but longer shifts, to ensure that more experienced officers were on duty at any one time.
- Details were sought about whether each parish would be updated about the impact of the changes to the response team structure in their area. Inspector Lee noted that information was available online and that they would be attending more engagement events. He explained that policing was a vocation and that lots of excellent work had been going on.
- Roger Brake from Donhead St Mary Parish Council asked about the priority being placed on tackling drug dealing. Inspector Lee noted that drug dealing was a so-called indicator crime, often being indicative of wider criminal issues. He explained that drug dealing was a high priority issue, they were using covert intelligence and new technology to tackle the problem.
- In response to a query from the Chairman about engagement activity in the local area, Inspector Lee highlighted that they worked closely with local schools and with vulnerable people.
- Martin Wallis from Fovant Parish Council explained that they used a neighbourhood alert site to raise awareness of issues in the local area.
- In reply to a question from Cllr George Jeans, Inspector Lee explained that it was possible to approach Police Community Support Officers to report incidents. Improvements were also being made in the response times for 101 calls.

7	<p><u>Partner and Community Updates</u></p> <p>The Area Board noted the following written updates available in the agenda pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community First pg. 53 - 55</li> <li>• BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire Together (Integrated Care Board) pg. 57</li> </ul> <p>Martin Wallis from Fovant Parish Council gave thanks to the Area Board for their grant towards creating an emergency hub for their village. He reported that they had received funding from Scottish Southern Electricity Networks for an emergency generator and had a facility able to provide warmth and hot food in times of emergency.</p>
8	<p><u>National Highways A360 Closure</u></p> <p>Alan Harris and Ken Marshall from National Highways gave an update about the impact of the road closure of the A360 between Longbarrow roundabout and The Avenue roundabout between mid-April and mid-July 2024. They explained that the closure of the road would allow Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) to install high voltage cables ahead of construction works on the A303 Stonehenge project. As part of the A303 upgrade the road would be buried as it passed through the world heritage site and the improved high voltage cables would be used on a temporary basis to power the tunnel boring machines. The officers noted that a number of other preliminary works were being undertaken prior to the commencement of the main works for the project in April 2025, including ecological works at Parsonage Down in the summer of 2024. The officers reassured the public that the A360 would remain open for local businesses and residents to cross. The main diversion route would be along the A345 and A36. A number of temporary weight limits were also being introduced on local roads to ensure that heavy goods vehicles were not directed along inappropriate routes.</p> <p>During the discussion, points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Area Board thanked the officers for their update.</li> <li>• 26,000 vehicles travelled past Stonehenge on the A303 each day, one every three and a half seconds. Traffic was expected to increase by a quarter over the next 20 years. The existing surface road through the world heritage site would be removed and replaced with wild grassland.</li> <li>• The works starting in April would not be subject to the conclusion of the legal proceedings submitted to the High Court by Save Stonehenge World Heritage Site. The timing of the work was dictated by a number of factors including the availability of resources from SSEN and the desire to avoid disruption during the school holidays over Christmas and August.</li> <li>• Cllr Church raised concerns about diverted traffic along The Avenue and then onto the A36 passing under a low bridge in Wilton, which was one of</li> </ul>

the top 10 bridges most hit by vehicles in the country. The officers stated that they would pass on feedback regarding early warning signs being installed before the closure of the A360.

- In response to a query from Jeremy Broad from Steeple Langford Parish Council about the back road from Wylve becoming logjammed if there was extra traffic on the A36, the officers noted that they would take onboard feedback from residents and monitor road use closely to minimise the use of smaller roads as 'rat-runs'.
- An operations room would be run for the duration of the A360 closure and correspondence channels would be kept open with the public.
- It was confirmed that work would be taking place 24 hours a day to ensure that the A360 was closed for as short a time as possible. Emergency services had been consulted with.
- Details were sought on why one lane of the A360 could not be kept open whilst the cables were installed under the other lane. It was explained that a series of trials had been undertaken to judge whether it would be feasible to keep the road open during the works. However, after consultation with Wiltshire Council, it was deemed that it would not be safe to keep one lane open.
- A member of the public working in the travel and tourism industry raised concerns about the impact of the closure of the A360 deterring passengers from cruise ships in Southampton. It was clarified that it had not been possible to commence the works during the winter months of 2023/24 as they were still waiting on the outcome of the legal challenge. If the judicial review, the outcome of which was announced on 19 February 2024, had gone against the A303 project then works would have had to have been aborted on the A360.
- It was clarified that it would not have been possible to run the cables in the fields adjacent to the road as it had not been possible to obtain consent for the works from all of the relevant landowners. Dialogue would be ongoing with landowners throughout the project.
- When concerns were raised that traffic from the A303 would be diverted through Solstice Park, it was confirmed that works on the central road barrier near Solstice Park would commence in the winter of 2025. The intention was to run traffic, not through the park but along the Allington track.
- Between 7,000 and 9,000 vehicles used the A360 each day.
- Current projections were that the full A303 project would be completed by 2031 and cost approximately £1.7 billion.
- Peter Binley, Head of Major Highway Projects at Wiltshire Council, reiterated that unfortunately it would not be possible to carry out the installation of cables under the A360 safely whilst keeping a lane open. He recognised the frustration of local residents and reassured them that the A360 closure was the best way of minimising disruption whilst delivering the project.

It was noted that further public consultation events would be held at:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday 9 March, South Newton and Wishford Village Hall, Stoford, Salisbury, SP2 0PJ between 10am and 4pm</li> <li>• Monday 11 March, Shrewton Village Hall, Recreation Ground, The Hollow, Shrewton, SP3 4JY between 11am and 4pm</li> <li>• Tuesday 12 March, Durrington Village Hall, High Street Durrington, SP4 8AD between 11am and 6pm</li> <li>• Friday 15 March, Antrobus House, Edmund Hall, 39 Salisbury Road, Amesbury, SP4 7HH between 11am and 7pm</li> </ul>
9	<p><u>Highway Matters Wrap Up</u></p> <p>The Chairman referred the Area Board to the written responses to the questions submitted during the Highway Matters event at their previous meeting, available on pages 7 to 24 of the agenda pack.</p> <p>Cllr Richard Budden emphasised that he was very unhappy about the condition of the roads in his division, specifically unnumbered and C roads. He explained that he had contacted Wiltshire Council’s Highways Team with queries from residents in the Donheads who were not able to raise at the previous meeting due to time constraints.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that the local councillors would work collectively to put together a list of priorities, so that the areas in immediate need could be highlighted. He noted that Wiltshire Council was putting in additional money to support highway repairs. Cllr Pauline Church emphasised the importance of fairness and efficient use of funding when choosing how to prioritise projects. The Vice-Chairman suggested that the unitary councillors tour the Area Board’s area to help to identify the most pressing projects.</p> <p>Roger Brake from Donhead St Mary Parish Council thanked Cllr Budden for the work he had done in highlighting pothole issues. He noted that parish councils had an intimate knowledge of the issues with their local roads and stated that he would welcome further engagement to improve transparency about how issues were prioritised. The Chairman emphasised the importance of an open relationship between unitary councillors and parish councils and encouraged parish councils to contact the Area Board members with their concerns. He also noted that the My Wilts reporting service had recently been updated to improve usability. It was highlighted that parish stewards were a great source of information on the condition of the roads in their areas.</p>
10	<p><u>Highway Maintenance Programme</u></p> <p>Peter Binley, Head of Major Highway Projects at Wiltshire Council, praised the Area Board for the holistic view that they had taken in their earlier discussion surrounding highways. He then gave an insight into the challenges facing Wiltshire Council in maintaining the highway network. He explained that the</p>

	<p>network had not been as badly damaged since 2013/14 and was suffering from one of the wettest Februarys on record. He highlighted that many smaller rural roads were never built with a subbase or adequate drainage, which was leading to them to collapse. However, he reassured the public that further investment was being made in the road network with £20 million being spent on maintenance in the current financial year and £30 million to be spent in the forthcoming financial year. He explained that there were national challenges and that central government was providing additional funding, as well as Wiltshire Council. Additional money had been provided for equipment, including a new machine for specialist repairs.</p> <p>During the discussion the following points were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairman emphasised that the Area Board would work collectively to ensure an equitable spread of resources throughout its area.</li> <li>• It was confirmed that short term repairs could be implemented to fix potholes on a temporary basis. Parish Stewards were allowed to undertake repairs, subject to their other duties.</li> <li>• In response to a query from Cllr Pauline Church about the A30 Shaftesbury Road, the Head of Major Highway Projects noted that it was overdue for repair. He also emphasised that there was a balancing act between maintaining urban and rural roads.</li> <li>• The Head of Major Highway Projects noted that potholes were less of a safety concern than road surfaces getting ‘polished’ over time making it harder to break. However, he did stress that potholes could cause damage to vehicles. He also reassured the Area Board that skid resistance testing was undertaken to ensure that safe breaking distances were maintained.</li> <li>• Cllr Richard Budden sought clarification on why some of the items in the highway maintenance programme did not yet have a date on them. The Head of Major Highway Projects explained that dates had not been provided in some cases as funding had yet to be confirmed. Wiltshire Council published a five-year plan but were not able to schedule too far in advance until funding was confirmed. He also noted that central government was setting a more settled budget for highways and that some projects would have to be re-prioritised following an assessment of recent weather damage.</li> </ul>
11	<p><u>Area Board Priorities</u></p> <p>The Strategic Engagement and Partnership Manager, Karen Linaker, gave an overview of the progress made towards the Area Board’s priority goals. Further detail was provided about the Health and Wellbeing priority where the Area Board had made a real impact. She reported that an amazing event had been held in Tisbury with a band and food. She also referred to the successful ‘tech savvy’ sessions that were ongoing as funded by the Area Board and that this work would broaden into some techie tea parties to also involve mobile ‘phone support.</p>



	<p>The Chairman thanked the Strategic Engagement and Partnership Manager for all of her hard work in the community.</p>
12	<p><u>Local Highways and Footpaths Improvements Group</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the recommendations from the previous meeting of the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvements Group (LHFIG) held on 7 February 2024.</p> <p>A question was raised in relation to issue 14-23-14, a speed assessment on the C12 near Bishopstone and Broad Chalke. It was noted that the project was scheduled to take place in January and details were sought about when the assessment would take place.</p> <p>On the proposal of the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Cllr George Jeans, it was resolved to make the:</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>To approve the LHFIG funding recommendations to the following schemes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4c – Bollard in West Street, Wilton – £307.50</b></li> <li>• <b>4f – Replacement Street Nameplates in Mere – £694.50</b></li> <li>• <b>4h – Signing &amp; Lining Improvements at Edge Bridge, Mere – £1,275</b></li> </ul> <p>Cllr Pauline Church did not participate, or vote on, the recommendations having declared a non-registerable interest in relation to recommendation 4c.</p>
13	<p><u>Area Board Funding</u></p> <p>The Area Board noted the budgets remaining for allocation at the meeting and heard from representatives in attendance who gave a brief overview of their project followed by any questions by the Area Board.</p> <p><b>Area Board Initiative</b></p> <p><u>South West Wiltshire Youth Partnership Forum Requesting £500 for a Startup Fund</u></p> <p>The Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Manger introduced the application, which would allow the Area Board to re-establish a Youth Partnership Forum.</p> <p>On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Richard Budden, it was resolved to make the:</p>

**Decision**

To award South West Wiltshire Youth Partnership Forum £500 for a startup fund.

**Reason**

*The application met Youth Grant criteria for 2023/24.*

**Older and Vulnerable People's Grants**

Wiltshire Music Centre Requesting £1,200 Towards Creative Conversations

The Creative Producer at Celebrating Age Wiltshire introduced the application, which would promote social activity for isolated, older and vulnerable adults living in and around Steeple Langford and surrounding villages.

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:

**Decision**

To award Wiltshire Music Centre, £1,200 towards Creative Conversations.

**Reason**

*The application met Older and Vulnerable People's Grant criteria for 2023/24.*

Sounds Better 2022 Community Interest Company Requesting £1,000 Towards Sing and Breathe Mere

The project representative explained that they had achieved match funding of £1,000 and had received lots of interest from the local community as well as the support of Asthma UK.

On the proposal of Cllr George Jeans, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was resolved to make the:

**Decision**

To award Sounds Better 2022 Community Interest Company £1,000 towards Sing and Breathe Mere.

**Reason**

*The application met Older and Vulnerable People's Grant criteria for 2023/24.*

## **Youth Grants**

The Chairman highlighted that there was insufficient funding remaining to award all of the applications for Youth Grant funding. He noted that, given that the budget would be £5,516.88 overdrawn if all applications were awarded in full, the Area Board had held conversations about how best to make the most of the available funding. However, he emphasised that no decision had yet been made and invited each applicant in turn to speak in favour of their application before they were voted on by the Area Board.

### The Chalke Valley Fete Committee Requesting £500 Towards the Chalke Valley Fete and Produce Show 2024

Chris from the Fete Committee spoke in favour of their project. He noted that, as there was funding still available in the Older and Vulnerable People's budget, they would be happy to take funding from that pot instead of the Youth budget. The Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Manager explained that as the project was explicitly made a Youth initiative unfortunately it would not be possible to draw on the Older and Vulnerable People's budget for funding.

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Jeans, it was resolved to make the:

#### **Decision**

**To award the Chalke Valley Fete Committee £500 towards the Chalke Valley Fete and Produce Show 2024.**

#### **Reason**

***The application met Youth Grant criteria for 2023/24.***

### Dinton Cricket Club Requesting £3,000 Towards a Non-turf Wicket

A representative from their club explained that their existing non-turf wicket was 20 years old and in need of replacement. They had over 60 children use their facilities as part of the club and participated in the England Cricket Board's All Star and Dynamos Programme. They also worked closely with Dinton Primary School.

It was noted that there was £258.98 remaining in the Capital (Community Area Grant) budget that could be used towards the project.

On the proposal of the Vice-Chairman, seconded by the Chairman, it was resolved to make the:

**Decision**

To award £3,000 to Dinton Cricket Club towards a non-turf wicket, £258.98 of which would come from the Community Area Grant Budget.

**Reason**

*The application met Youth Grant and Community Area Grant criteria for 2023/24. There was insufficient funding remaining to award all the Youth Grants in full but there was remaining funding available in the Community Area Grant budget that could be used to increase the amount awarded to Dinton Cricket Club.*

**Seeds4Success Requesting £5,000 Towards Open Access Youth Drop In and Outreach Activities**

Jacki Farrell from Seeds4Success explained that the funding would help them to deliver their Monday evening club in Wilton and Friday night drop-in in Mere.

On the proposal of the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Cllr Richard Budden, it was resolved to make the:

**Decision**

To award Seeds4Success £4,750 towards open access youth drop in and outreach activities.

**Reason**

*The application met Youth Grant criteria for 2023/24. There was insufficient funding available in the Youth budget to award all of the applications in full.*

**Seeds4Success Requesting £5,000 Towards a Young People's Health and Wellbeing Project**

Jacki Farrell from Seeds4Success explained that the funding would help them to deliver their Monday evening sessions in the Nadder Centre in Tisbury. The money would also help to transport children for free to the club on their minibus. A number of children were in attendance to explain how they had benefitted from the activities.

On the proposal of the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Cllr Pauline Church, it was resolved to make the:

**Decision**

To award Seeds4Success £4,750 towards a Young People's health and wellbeing project.

	<p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met Youth Grant criteria for 2023/24. There was insufficient funding available in the Youth budget to award all of the applications in full.</i></b></p> <p><u>Semley Music Festival Community Group Requesting £5,000 Towards Semley Music Festival</u></p> <p>Representatives from the community group explained that their event had been running for the past three years and had hosted performances from a number of international bands, including from Brazil and Sweden. They had also given an opportunity to up and coming young musicians. Free art and craft activities would be available for children.</p> <p>During the discussion, the Area Board signalled that they were minded to award a lower amount than requested and expressed regret that they were unable to award a higher amount. Advice was provided that the Area Board would not be in a position to drawn upon funds from the forthcoming financial year. It was noted that, although the grant applied for was for Youth funding there was £1,000 of funding still available in the Older and Vulnerable People’s budget. It would be possible for the Area Board to award remaining funding before the end of the current financial year through the delegated authority of the Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Manager if they were deemed to be urgent.</p> <p>On the proposal of the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Cllr Church, it was resolved to make the:</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>To award Semley Music Festival Community Group £500 towards Semley Music Festival.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met Youth Grant criteria for 2023/24. There was insufficient funding available in the Youth budget to award all of the applications in full.</i></b></p>
14	<p><u>Urgent Items</u></p> <p>There were no urgent items. Future meeting dates were confirmed as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29 May 2024</li> <li>• 11 September 2024</li> <li>• 13 November 2024</li> </ul> <p>For information on applying for a grant or grant application deadlines for these meetings, contact the Area Board Delivery Officer,  <a href="mailto:karlene.jammeh@wiltshire.gov.uk">karlene.jammeh@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>.</p>

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## South West Wiltshire Health & Wellbeing Group Meeting

### Summary

31<sup>st</sup> January 2024, 11.00am

1. **Present:** Cllr Dick Budden (cllr lead), Cllr Bridget Wayman, Karen Linaker (Wiltshire Council Strategic Engagement & Partnership Manager, Communities Team), Becky Bye (Rethink), Jane Mason (Mere Day Centre), Irene Kohler (Salisbury Area Board-Older Person's Champion), Rebecca Seymour (Celebrating Age), Gill Bettington (Wiltshire Council Adult Social Care)

2. **Celebrating Age Programme – Creative Conversations Grant Request (£1.2k)**

The group discussed this grant and made the following key points:

- (a) Welcome this particular initiative as distinct from the monthly big events, recognising the need of some for small group professionally facilitated support
- (b) Glad to see that the initiative is focused this time in the Langfords and supported by village groups such as the luncheon club and Messenger newsletter
- (c) Agree that the area board should look to fund this initiative in full

3. **Sing & Breath Mere – Grant Request (£1k)**

- (a) Support was confirmed for this initiative, and reassurance sought as to how it will be promoted to ensure good take up, and to how those unable to travel to the venue by themselves will be supported.
- (b) Intrigued to see how this initiative can help participants continue on to other local activities such as choirs, and to how the initiative will provide some respite for carers.

4. **Preliminary group discussion before full discussion with professionals at the next meeting** : [Mental health and autism: Falling between the gaps | Healthwatch Wiltshire](#)

The group briefly discussed this report which will receive fuller consideration at the next meeting. Health Watch Wiltshire, and representatives from the ICB and Wiltshire Council will be invited to speak to the report and the consequent action plan.

The group is keen to see a full picture of the data driving the findings of this report, and to discuss with service leads how the area board can help to facilitate local action to fill in some of the gaps in support.

**5. Partner Sharing and Upcoming Initiatives**

- (a) 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Silent Disco at Wilton Place Care Home
- (b) 5<sup>th</sup> March Silent Disco in Mere
- (c) 12<sup>th</sup> March Health & Wellbeing Event at Langford Lakes
- (d) April Celebrating Age Creative Workshop at Fovant Village Hall
- (e) May Tisbury Mobile Museum for Dementia Memory Group Anniversary
- (f) Silver Salisbury Spring Newsletter due for publication – seeking new material
- (g) Mere Healthy Walking initiative – working on the next event following the very successful New Year New Bottom Walk
- (h) Beginning to plan for Xmas 2024, following very successful Nadder Centre event last Dec in partnership with the Area Board, Celebrating Age and St John’s School