

Partner Update for Warminster Area Board

Name of Partner: Warminster and Villages Community Partnership (WVCP)

Date of Area Board Meeting: 7 March 2013

1. WVCP Top Priorities. The AGM was held on 26th January 2013. The WVCP's top 3 priorities continue to be as follows:
 - Maintain a fit-for-purpose Community Area Plan
 - Build capacity by fostering and supporting Pillar and Theme groups
 - Work closely with Local Government and Official Services to achieve mutual objectives

2. Headlines/Key Successes
 - A consultation survey for the updated Community Plan was distributed in October to over 9,000 households and businesses within the WVCP area. Also available online, the deadline for responses was 7th December 2012.
 - Over 1,000 responses were received (10.9% return rate) of which 113 were submitted online.
 - The analysed survey results were presented at a consultation event hosted by WVCVP on 26th January 2013 at the Civic Centre. This enabled further group discussions to finalise priorities under the eight community plan pillars. This feedback is currently being collated, and the updated Plan to be published March/April 2013.
 - Signage survey completed in Warminster by the Economic and Tourism Group is now being taken forward by the Town Council and Wiltshire Council.
 - Enterprise Warminster sub-group set up in partnership with Warminster Town Council is now supporting five projects that focus on the tourism and retail sectors.
 - Partnership working links continue to be strengthened by WVCP with Area Board and others through sub-groups, committees, panels and forums.
 - 2nd tranche of core funding for 2012/13 granted by the Area Board in November.

Projects

- Economic and Tourism Group – signage survey report completed and monitoring of town scene and empty buildings ongoing. The group are active in carrying out a business confidence survey and developing 'Welcome to Warminster' and 'Buy Local' leaflets.
- Enterprise Warminster Group – five projects: online retail click and reserve community through MyHigh.St; Hidden Britain event on 26th February to promote tourism; AMTi Metamorphosis event for independent retailers on 12th March; Job Club and Job Fair events.
- Youth Transport scheme currently enables youngsters from rural villages access to Warminster Town facilities.
- Warminster in Bloom will continue its' work under the Civic Trust's remit.

- Warminster Community Radio's Saturday morning slot continuing to highlight the work of the Partnership/ Area Board/Voluntary organisations etc.
- Sport 4 Warminster –rural schools sports initiative currently supports the continuation and sustainability of a jointly held annual Sports day and a Thursday club that helps integrate Primary school youngsters prior to moving to senior school.

Diary Dates

- WVCP Committee meeting every 4th Tuesday of the month
 - Spring 2013 – publication of updated Community Plan
 - 2013/14 – moving the plan forward with ongoing review of key priorities
3. External Relations. The WVCP Committee has maintained links with Wiltshire Council (Area Board, CATG); Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships (WfCAP). It has formed links with Enterprise Warminster and reconnected with the Neighbourhood Tasking Group led by the Police.
4. Communications.
- To actively use the Our Community Matters blogsite recently launched by Wiltshire Council, to highlight news and events within the Partnership.
 - The website is available at www.communicate.co.uk/wilts/wvcp where documents are available to download and is currently being updated.
 - Adverts are placed in the Warminster Journal of upcoming events together with updates of activities. This information is also shared with the Area Board and WfCAP to upload on their websites.
 - An advert submitted to the Wiltshire Times to highlight the profile of WVCP is pending publication.
 - Information and circulars from other partners are disseminated by email to interested parties for signposting purposes.
 - Further use of social media is being explored.
5. Developments and Issues.
- Engagement with the wider public is an ongoing issue, and being addressed through press publicity, raising the website profile, social media and the public consultation event to update the Community Plan.
 - The second tranche of WVCP's core funding for 2012/13 was approved by the Area Board in November 2012.

Signed: Shona Holt, Coordinator, WVCP

Date: February 2013