

Partner Update for Warminster Area Board

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

Date of Area Board Meeting: 5 September 2013

1. WVCP Priorities

The WVCP's top 3 priorities continue to be:

- Maintain a fit-for-purpose Community Area Plan.
- Build capacity by fostering and supporting Theme groups.
- Work closely with local government and stakeholders to achieve mutual objectives.

2. Headlines

- First tranche of 2013/4 core funding granted by the Area Board in July.
- New WVCP website now launched and WVCP has followers on Twitter.
- Draft Community Plan nearing completion. Further theme related work under development.
- Proposed development of a group to join up volunteers and volunteering opportunities in the Warminster area.
- New Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) culture strand is being developed by Wiltshire Council with mapping input by WVCP.
- Supported the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) event held in May.
- Partnership working links continue to be strengthened by WVCP with Area Board and stakeholders in the wider community.

3. Developments and Issues

- The first tranche of WVCP's core funding for 2013/14 was approved by the Area Board in July 2013. Second tranche application will be made to Area Board in November.
- The new website for WVCP is now launched – see <http://www.westwilts-communityweb.com/site/Warminster-and-Villages-Community-Partnership/>. Documents relating to the new draft community plan are available to download, together with links to other stakeholders in the community. This is an area of ongoing development.
- Follow WVCP on Twitter – see <https://twitter.com/warminstervcp>
- Feedback from the consultation survey and public events form the basis of the updated Community Area Plan that identifies local priorities. The revised eight theme headings will define community areas more clearly, alongside the Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA). Cross-cutting themes also apply. Underpinning this is development of an appendix identifying organisations linked to each theme, alongside sources of fundraising. This will enable efficient dissemination of intelligence to support local clubs and community groups. The draft plan will be presented to the Area Board in November.

- Engagement with the wider public is ongoing and membership of WVCP has expanded.
- Initial discussions have taken place with interested parties in the community around the issue of volunteering in the Warminster area, with the aim to set up a new theme group under the community plan. Further details to follow.
- New JSA culture theme is being developed by Wiltshire Council. Work is being carried out by WVCP to map local assets as part of this process.

4. Projects

- Economic and Tourism Group – A media contact list has been produced to help Warminster clubs and organisations publicise their events. Benchmarking data collection for 2013 is progressing and involved help from Warminster School students. Action for Market Towns has also asked the group to do some work on a national pilot for enhanced benchmarking. Their signage report is now being considered by CATG and work being costed. Ongoing monitoring by the group of town scene and empty buildings.
- Health and Social Care Group – monitoring and information sharing of developments with Clinical Commissioning Groups and Healthwatch.
- Job Club and Job Fairs – events are ongoing.
- Warminster in Bloom – continuing under the Civic Trust to carry out regular work with volunteers to maintain various planted areas. More volunteers are needed.

5. External Relations. The WVCP Committee maintains strong links with Wiltshire Council (Area Board, CATG), Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships (WfCAP), Warminster Town Council, Enterprise Warminster and the Neighbourhood Tasking Group led by the Police. It has formed links with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, DEVELOP and other partners to develop a theme group around volunteering in the Warminster area.

6. Communications

- Use of Wiltshire Council's Our Community Matters blogsite to highlight news and events within the Partnership and also actively signposts others to use it.
- The Economic and Tourism Group issue publicity each month of its activities, using the Warminster Journal and other media.
- Information and circulars from other partners are disseminated by email to interested parties for signposting purposes. Work is ongoing to strengthen this using lead people under the reconfigured themes of the new community plan.

7. Diary Dates

WVCP Management Committee meets every fourth Tuesday of the month.

Shona Holt, Coordinator, WVCP
warminstervcp@gmail.com
 August 2013