

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** DEVIZES AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Assembly Room, Devizes Town Hall, St John's Street, Devizes SN10 1BN  
**Date:** 26 November 2012  
**Start Time:** 6.30 pm  
**Finish Time:** 8.30 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Laura Mayes (Chairman), Cllr Jeffrey Ody, Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Lionel Grundy OBE and Cllr Liz Bryant

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

David Ashdown (Technical Support Officer), Richard Rogers (Community Area Manager) and Alexa Smith (Democratic Services Officer)

### **Town and Parish Councillors**

Devizes Town - Peter Evans, Sue Evans, Simon Fisher (Deputy Town Clerk), Roger Giraud-Saunders, Margaret Taylor and Ray Taylor

Erlestoke – Stan Jonik

Etchilhampton – M Woods

Potterne – Robert Hunt-Grubbe

Roundway – Tony Batchelor, Chris Callow and Albert Wooldridge

Rowde – Peter Alfrey, Jackie Bawden and Rebekah Jeffries

### **Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Matt Armstrong

Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service – Mike Franklin

Devizes Community Area Partnership – Peter Baxter, Kate Freeman, Simon Jacobs, Tony Sedgwick, Doug Roseaman, Noel Woolrych and Paula Winchcombe

**Total in attendance: 70**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>														
1	<p><u>Welcome and Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming. She explained there were unfortunately some changes to the agenda since it was published. Anzac House would no longer be an item and nor would the Cabinet Representative and Youth Services items go ahead, as Councillor Keith Humphries and Richard Harris had sent their apologies for the meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman provided information about the skate park. Councillor Mayes was grateful for the help given by Devizes Town Council, especially Simon Fisher, to the project. The Green Lane site had been selected and young people were involved in the design of the park, which should open in July. A member of the public commented their child was delighted with the indoor facility in the town and very much looking forward to an outdoor facility.</p> <p>A new online community site for Devizes and the surrounding villages had been launched called Our Community Matters. The fully interactive site provided local people and organisations with a free way of sharing community news, events and information.</p> <p>The membership of the Shadow Community Operations Board (SCOB) was ratified as below. The Chairman explained the Shadow COB would work on the campus project and how local services should best be delivered in the future. The Chairman clarified this model had been used across the county and DCAP would also be involved as an important consultee. One position was still waiting to be filled and this would be reported back at the next area board meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The area board agreed the membership of the Shadow COB would comprise of:</b></p> <table data-bbox="336 1509 1495 1803"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="336 1509 877 1543"><b>Sector</b></th> <th data-bbox="916 1509 1211 1543"><b>Appointed Member</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 1547 877 1581">Wiltshire Council Officer x 1</td> <td data-bbox="916 1547 1211 1581">Rachel Goff</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 1585 877 1619">Area Board Representative x 1</td> <td data-bbox="916 1585 1211 1619">Councillor Nigel Carter</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 1624 877 1657">Town/Parish Council x 1</td> <td data-bbox="916 1624 1211 1657">Councillor Peter Evans</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 1662 877 1695">Education and Young People x 1</td> <td data-bbox="916 1662 1211 1695">Stephanie Davis</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 1700 877 1733">Wider Community x 1</td> <td data-bbox="916 1700 1211 1733">Anna Farquhar</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 1738 877 1771">User and Community Groups x 3</td> <td data-bbox="916 1738 1495 1803">Glenys Armstrong, Mike Weston (One position still being filled).</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A late announcement had been received on the day of the meeting. The Children's Centre in Devizes had a minibus they were no longer using, please get in touch if you would be interested in this.</p>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Appointed Member</b>	Wiltshire Council Officer x 1	Rachel Goff	Area Board Representative x 1	Councillor Nigel Carter	Town/Parish Council x 1	Councillor Peter Evans	Education and Young People x 1	Stephanie Davis	Wider Community x 1	Anna Farquhar	User and Community Groups x 3	Glenys Armstrong, Mike Weston (One position still being filled).
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2	<u>Apologies for Absence</u>														

	<p>Apologies had been received from Councillor Jane Burton, Richard Harris (Locality Team Leader), Councillor Keith Humphries, Jo Partt (Bromham Parish Council), Liz Read (Little Cheverell Parish Council) and Rick Rowland (Roundway Parish Council).</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2012 were approved and signed as a correct record.</p>
4	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
5	<p><u>Support for the Jubilee Celebrations - is it worth doing something similar again?</u></p> <p>The Chairman spoke about the small grants that were given by the area board to bring communities together to celebrate the Jubilee.</p> <p>Thelma Edwards described the effect the small grant from Devizes Area Board had had on the new community at Quakers Walk. A group at Quakers Walk began from Thelma meeting people when gardening her front garden. She quickly found speaking to local people they shared common interests and concerns and an informal group was set up.</p> <p>The first event they had was a Christmas wish tree, followed by a parade with a town band to raise money for Wiltshire Air Ambulance and an Easter celebration. The small grant from the area board was used for a successful event to celebrate the Jubilee that attracted approximately 180 people of all ages.</p> <p>The Quakers Walk group had since developed and would be working with the local school to put on an event at Christmas, again collecting for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. In the New Year the group would consider becoming more of a formal small organisation.</p> <p>Similar successes from the small grants awarded were reported from the communities in Rowde and Long Street. It was commented that traditionally communities would get together and celebrate in this way. The intention was for new communities to use the small amount of funding available to become self sufficient and sustaining in the longer term. Parish Councils could also offer support to new communities.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The area board would consider whether making available small grants to help build stronger communities should be offered again.</b></p>
6	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p>

- a. The Chairman welcomed Inspector Matt Armstrong and thanked Inspector Ron Peach for all his hard work in the community area. The written update from Wiltshire Police was noted. Inspector Matt Armstrong gave a brief summary of his background; after 15 years of service in a wide range of roles he was now working in Devizes, Marlborough and Pewsey.
- b. The written update from Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service was noted. Mike Franklin added there had been a local incident in which five members of a family had been treated for carbon monoxide poisoning; this highlighted the importance of having a carbon monoxide detector fitted. There would be an event focused on keeping safe at Christmas at the Market Place on 3 December.
- c. The written update from NHS Wiltshire was noted.
- d. Devizes Community Area Partnership provided feedback from the traffic strategy exhibition. Although the information available at the exhibition had been less than expected, the event had been successful in many ways and had attracted approximately 140 attendees. Responses would be looked into and the Devizes Transport Strategy may be amended accordingly. An additional event would be scheduled and information was available to view at the area board meeting.
- e. Councillor Gamble provided an extensive update about the Community Area Transport Group. This included the following main points:
  - Suitable facilities to attract tourist coaches to Devizes (please see resolution below).
  - The accident on Armistice Day on the A360 between Littleton Panell and Black Dog crossroads – very sadly a child of 13 had since died. Any response would await the coroner's report.
  - The new crossing of the Nursteed Road near the back entrance to Devizes School was now operational.
  - The cycle route on Quakers Walk was now legal.
  - A cycle route across The Green had been surveyed and discussions were underway about lighting.
  - Bike stands in or near the Market Place were under discussion.
  - Village gates at Marston were being planned.
  - There was room for new items on the CATG agenda. The possibility of providing informal pedestrian crossings in West Lavington and Littleton Panell was being looked into.
  - Speeding issues – Councillor Gamble thanked residents for the Horton Road petition and speed limits on this route were under review with a report expected in the New Year with additional steps taken to improve the bus stops.
  - The Worton road was similarly under review.
  - A metro-count was being arranged at Church Hill in Bromham and,

	<p>subject to results, a Community Speed Watch scheme may be appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Carter was in discussion with local businesses to help ensure the Domino's pizza delivery van did not add to congestion at Rose's roundabout on market day.</li> <li>• The location of new signs on the side road at Potterne Wick marking the speed limit was being reviewed and the signs would be moved if necessary.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Devizes Area Board agreed that further preparation work should go ahead regarding suitable facilities to attract tourist coaches to Devizes.</b></p> <p>f. Councillor Paula Winchcombe commented the Parish Council's Forum had established successful communication between parishes and the area board. Since the launch of the forum, more direct working relationships had been established in the community area. It was proposed that Devizes Community Area Partnership withdrew from supporting this service in the hope that the councils would continue to work together and maintain a dialogue on matters of common interest.</p>
7	<p><b><u>Anzac House</u></b></p> <p>This item had been removed from the agenda.</p>
8	<p><b><u>Air Quality Management Area</u></b></p> <p>Mandy Bradley, Service Director for Public Protection, provided further information about an Air Quality Management Area in Devizes, following up the presentation given at the area board meeting on 23 July 2012.</p> <p>In July, three options for extending the Air Quality Management Area in Devizes had been presented to the meeting and a consultation process had been launched. This had now been completed. The preferred option following consultation was Option 3, the most extensive Air Quality Management Area (a combination of Options 1 and 2 with an extension along London Road towards Hopton Industrial estate).</p> <p>This order would then be made and signed by the Wiltshire Council legal team with the Wiltshire Council Seal and a copy would be sent to DEFRA. In 12-18 months, an official Air Quality Action Plan should be established, however Mandy emphasised that much work on air quality was going on in the meantime.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Devizes Area Board agreed that Option 3, as presented to the meeting, should go ahead as an Air Quality Management Area in Devizes.</b></p>

9	<p><u>Cabinet Representative - Councillor Keith Humphries</u></p> <p>Councillor Keith Humphries had sent his apologies for the meeting.</p>
10	<p><u>Youth Services in Devizes</u></p> <p>Richard Harris, Locality Team Leader, had sent his apologies for the meeting. In his absence, the Chairman explained what a Youth Advisory Group (YAG) was and that the youth service was looking for a representative from the area board.</p> <p>YAGs were a new initiative led by young people and linked to the area boards. The YAG would be chaired by a young person under the age of 25 and involve the coordination of local activities, communication of opportunities and shaping services. The YAG could either replace the Community Area Young People's Issues Group or the two could continue together.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Community Area Young People's Issues Group should be replaced by the Youth Advisory Group in the Devizes community area.</b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>An area board representative would be appointed to the Youth Advisory Group subject to negotiation and reported back at a future area board meeting.</b></p>
11	<p><u>Area Board Funding</u></p> <p>Councillors were asked to consider three applications made to the Community Area Grants Scheme.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Bishops Cannings Cricket Club were awarded £5,000 towards providing a new cricket pavilion.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met the 2012/13 grant criteria and the application contributes towards improving leisure and recreational activities as well as helping with health and traffic issues.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Sheep Street Baptist Church were awarded £1,525 towards new folding chairs and storage trolleys for their luncheon club.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <b><i>The application met the 2012/13 grant criteria and while the project is affiliated to the Church, it should provide a service to the wider community.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p>

	<p>The Friends of Bishops Cannings School were awarded £200 through the small grants scheme to purchase high visibility vests for the walking bus.</p> <p><b><u>Reason</u></b>  <i>The application met the 2012/13 grant criteria and the initiative helped to address both the concerns of high levels of childhood obesity in the area and road safety and congestion. The Chairman commented this successful initiative may be looked into further for use by other schools in the area.</i></p>
12	<p><u>Drew's Pond Wood</u></p> <p>Councillors were asked to consider a member initiative to ring fence £5,000 to support the Drew's Pond Wood Project as it sought to purchase new land and extend its offering to the local community, to include a community orchard. At present the land was owned by a developer and a further £20,000 in total was needed.</p> <p>Several people in the room spoke in favour of the project and of the good work of those involved in taking care of the area.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Devizes Area Board would ring fence £5,000 to support the Drew's Pond Wood Project as it sought to purchase new land and extend its offering to the local community.</b></p>
13	<p><u>Discussion Time</u></p> <p>In light of the items that had come off the agenda, the meeting was opened up to discussion of issues of wider community interest. Subjects covered included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The closure of the cafe Scrummylicious, leaving the community and its visitors without a functioning information desk and C2W Freephone point. This had been a useful and well used facility for the community, for example for displaying posters of local interest. Devizes Community Area Partnership would be looking into an alternative arrangement. Councillor Gamble thanked those involved for the excellent service they provided.</li> <li>• The proposal to build around 400 homes close to Coate Bridge had been revived by the developers. Consultation was taking place over the next couple of weeks in Devizes Library and concerns were raised about the capacity of Devizes infrastructure to cope. Members were unable to comment on this subject. The Wiltshire Core Strategy should be in place in the summer of 2013 and this should help to promote development that fitted the needs of the community.</li> </ul> <p>A show of hands was taken as to support or otherwise from those at the meeting for the proposal after concerns were raised regarding traffic, air pollution, green space and the capacity of the health services.</p>



	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b> <b>Those at the meeting were opposed to proposals to build around 400 homes close to Coate Bridge in the town.</b></p>
14	<p><u>Evaluation and Close.</u></p> <p>The next meeting would take place on Monday 28 January at 6.30 pm with the venue to be confirmed.</p>