

MINUTES

Meeting: BRADFORD ON AVON AREA BOARD
Place: St Maraget's Hall, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1DE
Date: 19 May 2010
Start Time: 7.05 pm
Finish Time: 9.20 pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

Kevin Fielding ,Tel: 012225 776655 ext: 115 or (e-mail) kevin.fielding@wiltshire.gov.uk

Papers available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Malcolm Hewson (Chairman), Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Linda Conley

Cabinet Representative – Dick Tonge (Highways & Transport)

Wiltshire Council Officers

Elly Townsend – Community Area Manager
Kevin Fielding - Democratic Services Officer
Sharon Davies – Service Director

Parish and Town Councillors

Bradford on Avon Town Council – Isabel Martindale
Limpley Stoke Parish Council – Bill Bailey & Simon Coombe
Monkton Farleigh Parish Council – Matthew Midlane
Westwood Parish Council – Terry Biles, Chris Humpries, Allan Parker & Steve Harding
Wingfield Parish Council – Alan Spreadbury & Alan Mines
Winsley Parish Council - John Allison

Partners

Wiltshire Police – Inspector David Cullop,
Bradford on Avon Library – Kathryn Preston
Bradford on Avon Community Partnership – David Gregory
Bradford on Avon Town Council Economic Development Consultant – Gerald Milward-Oliver

Development Service for Young People – Dawn Froggatt

Members of Public in Attendance: 2
Total in attendance: 45

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
30.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome, Introduction and Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to St Margaret's Hall, the Wiltshire councillors who made up the board were introduced, including Dick Tonge, (Wiltshire Council cabinet member) who was in attendance for this meeting.</p> <p>The Community Area Manager, Democratic Services Officer and Service Director were also introduced.</p> <p>All town, parish and partner representatives in attendance were welcomed by the Chairman.</p> <p>Chairman's Announcements</p> <p>Improving the Bradford on Avon Area Board - the Chairman advised that following feedback from the last meeting re improving the Bradford on Avon Area Board, it was apparent that many attendees thought that the agendas had too many presentations on them.</p> <p>To try and cut down on the number of presentations at this and future meetings several display boards had been sited at the rear of the venue with information on various topics, this would free up time on agendas for other matters and help keep meetings close to their two hour planned duration.</p> <p>Information on these display boards included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Friends of Barton Farm Play Area Group. • Bradford on Avon Town Council – proposed Woolley Street roundabout. • Local Development Framework – feedback on the Bradford on Avon community area. • Community area manager's issues updates. <p>Eight Parish Councillors resigned from Winsley Parish Council on the 30th March. As the Parish Council was left inquorate (without enough members to take formal decisions), Wiltshire Council was</p>	

	<p>requested to facilitate temporary governance arrangements until an election could be held. Two temporary appointments are now being made and local Parish Council elections will take place in Winsley on the 24th June.</p> <p>British Waterways mooring strategy – a meeting to discuss the proposed mooring strategy changes would be held at the Corn Exchange, Devizes on the 1 June 2010.</p>											
31.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Trevor Carbin who would be arriving later after attending a Parish Council meeting.</p>											
32.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Item</th> <th>Type of Interest</th> <th>Nature of Interest</th> <th>Action</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Councillor Malcolm Hewson</td> <td>Agenda Item No.5 – Public Participation – Bradford on Avon footbridge</td> <td>Prejudicial</td> <td>Bradford on Avon Town Councillor</td> <td>Left the room when this item was discussed</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action	Councillor Malcolm Hewson	Agenda Item No.5 – Public Participation – Bradford on Avon footbridge	Prejudicial	Bradford on Avon Town Councillor	Left the room when this item was discussed	
Name	Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action								
Councillor Malcolm Hewson	Agenda Item No.5 – Public Participation – Bradford on Avon footbridge	Prejudicial	Bradford on Avon Town Councillor	Left the room when this item was discussed								
33.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Decision</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting on 17 March 2010 were approved and signed as a correct record with the following amendments.</p> <p>In attendance: Westwood Parish Council was solely represented by Councillor Terry Biles, and not Terry Biles and Chris Humphries.</p> <p>Item 16 on p4: The Historic Core Zone workshop was planned for July 2010 (not September).</p>											

34.

Public Participation

Questions raised during the public participation session at the Bradford on Avon Area Board on the 17th March 2010

Question 1:

At the Bradford-on-Avon Area Board meeting in January 2010 the residents of Bradford-on-Avon voted increasing funding for the care of older people as a priority. As Britain has a population with an increasingly higher proportion of older people this funding area will increase over the foreseeable future.

Despite this, as shown in the Wiltshire Council's Council Tax leaflet issued to residents, Wiltshire Council has **decreased** expenditure on front line services, not only for older people and the physically impaired, but also for those with learning difficulties and mental health problems, whilst increasing expenditure on central and core service which includes items such as Chief Executive costs, procurement and HR.

I am deeply concerned that the views of Bradford-on-Avon residents have been ignored in the budget calculations, but further would appreciate detailed justification for a) the cuts in the front line services mentioned above and b) the Council's willingness to increase core and central services costs at a time when its budget is showing a reduction in the amount spent on care for older people, which is an area which will grow over the years due to the shift in demographics."

Wiltshire Council Response:

The 2010-11 budget contains growth of nearly £19 million. Whilst some of this is being used to support corporate services such as essential ICT infrastructure, the majority of this relates to front line services. Adult care services including the elderly have had growth of over £4million.

Efficiency savings of nearly £25 million have all been achieved from back office functions from measures such as continuation of the One Council for Wiltshire savings as the second year of the business case, further efficiencies arising from the Business Management Programme, procurement efficiencies and a range of other measures to reduce management and administration costs.

Diane Teale request for further clarification:

Regarding the other question on the budget, the response does not appear to address the points raised.

Regarding the other question on the budget, the response does not

appear to address the points raised.

Whilst overall adult services may have increased - it is not possible to establish this based on the numbers I have received - nevertheless, my question specifically related to older people, those with the physically impaired and those with learning difficulties and mental health problems where the booklet supplied by Wiltshire Council shows expenditure has decreased.

Furthermore, whilst the budget does indeed show an increase in ICT, I did not raise a question on that increase - instead I queried the increase in Core and Central Services: ICT costs are shown separately.

Wiltshire Council Response:

The budget for 2010/11 was prepared to allow for some growth in Adult Care Services, in the region of £4m, for example to help manage the increase in the population of Older People.

However, like the whole of the Council, Adult Care Services have also developed plans to achieve efficiency savings, and the decrease in the spending on the areas highlighted; services for Older People, those with a physical impairment, learning disability or mental health problems, reflect these efficiency savings. However, although overall spending has reduced this has been achieved by looking at the way that the services are provided and not through cutting services to people, for example making savings by improving our administration processes.

With regard to the increase in the spending on what is described as Central Support Services for Community Services, this area now includes spending on premises used by the frontline services, which was previously reported across the other spending areas.

Question two:

"I responded to the Wiltshire 2026 – Planning for Wiltshire's Future consultation, but have not received any feedback and was not invited to any workshop. Clearly I am disappointed to be excluded in this way, and furthermore I would like further clarification on the next steps for the consultation exercise including timeframes."

Wiltshire Council Response:

Thank you for responding to the 'Wiltshire 2026 - Planning for Wiltshire's Future' consultation and your continued interest in the process. Unfortunately due to the volume of response it has not been possible to acknowledge all responses received. The consultation, which ran from 30 October until 31 December 2009, was intended to be as inclusive as possible. The purpose of

the workshops was to enable representatives of local organisations to add their views to the consultation. In addition to the workshops the Council also held a public exhibition within the Bradford-on-Avon Community Area. The Council is currently considering all of the responses received to the consultation and intends to provide feedback to the Bradford-on-Avon Area Board summarising the comments received relating to the Community Area during the May/June cycle of meetings. The next steps will also be outlined at this meeting.

Questions raised on the night.

Question 1: Cllr Bill Bailey,(Limpley Stoke Parish Council) – advised that he was seeking volunteers to form a small group to look at youth related schemes throughout the Bradford on Avon community area, a possible tall ship sailing experience was outlined.

Agreed that Cllr Bailey would seek volunteers for this group.

Question 2: Mr John Seekings expressed his concerns re the proposed river Avon footbridge and the performance reward grant that was approved by members at the 17 March, Bradford Area Board meeting.

The chair responded to say that it was too late to consider the Performance Reward Application in full at the area board but that he had written to the Town Council asking if they would like to make any amendment to the bid and that this would be considered at the Town Council meeting the following Tuesday.

Note

Cllr Hewson left the meeting room after declaring a prejudicial interest on the Bradford on Avon foot bridge application, Cllr Rosemary Brown is now chairing the meeting.

Question 3: Cllr Isabel Martindale, (Bradford on Avon Town Council) requested administrative assistance from the Community Area Manager in minuting Bradford on Avon Town Council, Bridge project meetings following a meeting with Corporate Director Mark Boden, in which this suggestion had been made.

It was agreed that that the Community Area Manager would

	<p>discuss this proposal with Steve Milton, (Head of Community Governance) and feedback to Cllr Martindale. The members of the board were largely in favour of the area board offering assistance as far as the area manager was able, dependant on workload.</p> <p>Cllr Hewson is now back in the chair.</p>	
35.	<p><u>Community Items</u></p> <p>20mph Speed limit campaigns in Limpley Stoke and Westwood.</p> <p>Cllr Simon Coombe gave an update on the 20mph Speed limit campaign in Limpley Stoke.</p> <p>Points made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The original objective of the 20mph Speed Limit Campaign, led by the Parish Council, was to make the village lanes of Limpley Stoke safer to walk in. • Progress had now been made; Limpley Stoke was now looking at solutions to the traffic issues and good partnership working had been established with Wiltshire Council Highways and the Bradford on Avon Area Board. • Limpley Stoke Parish Council asked if it would be possible to have more information about the timing of the implementation of a trial 20mph site to assist other Parish Councils who were interested in 20mph speed limits. <p>David Bullock, (Highways Department, Wiltshire Council) gave an update on the 20mph Speed limit campaigns in Limpley Stoke and Westwood.</p> <p>Points made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20mph speed limits were to be trialled at six locations across the county to determine the most effective locations for 20mph speed limits across Wiltshire. Westwood and Limpley Stoke had been provisionally selected as two of the six trial sites. • Wiltshire Council highways officers would now be talking to both parish councils about the speeding problems in their villages with a view to introducing a trial speed limit for up to 	

18 months. A detailed analysis of the current speed of vehicles in both parishes will also be carried out in preparation for the trial.

- Once the current situation had been surveyed, the two parish councils would be encouraged to canvas local residents. The trial speed limits should be in place by October 2010.
- Once in place, monitoring will be carried out over the following 18 months. The success of the schemes will be judged on whether the new speed limits effectively reduce the speed of motorists. Evaluation of the trials will lead to the development of a detailed policy regarding 20mph limits early in 2012.
- Westwood Parish Council asked if it would be possible to consider other traffic calming measures as part of this process. Dave Bullock confirmed that the project aimed to look specifically at 20mph trials and that other traffic calming measures would have to be raised separately.
- Cllr Brown raised the issue of road safety on Ashley Road, where residents had also made enquiries about 20mph limits and the possibility of using 20mph stickers to warn motorists to slow down. Dave Bullock advised that a new black and yellow 20mph sticker had been agreed and would be available to residents through their neighbourhood policing team. It was also suggested that St Laurence may have a school travel plan which was already looking at the issue.

Agreed that the community area manager would speak to local residents about the problem in Ashley Road in more detail.

- Westwood Parish Council advised that there was not the same level of consensus in the village on the necessity of a 20mph speed limit as in Limpley Stoke but that they were willing to discuss the potential of a trial with Wiltshire Highways.

Priority for People update.

Gerald Milward-Oliver, Richard Craft and David Moss (Chair of the Historic Core Zone Group) gave a presentation updating on the work of the Priority for people groups. Main points included:

- Richard Craft presented on the Safer Community Action Groups response to the recent Speed Limit Review and their concerns that Wiltshire Council's interpretation of the Department for Transport guidelines had been narrow & mechanistic, that local needs not considered and that they had no confidence in use of mean speed data.
- The group further expressed their desire to be helpful in providing local intelligence to Wiltshire Highways as they developed transport policy.
- David Moss, Chair of the Historic Core Zone Group, gave an update on the progress of plans for a Historic Core Zone in the centre of Bradford on Avon. He recounted that the idea of an HCZ for BoA had been born at a Taming the Traffic workshop in 2008 and that the Historic Core Zone group had welcomed the commissioning of Colin Buchanan Consultants by Wiltshire Council to draw up initial plans for a scheme.
- Colin Buchan had held two stakeholder workshops in the town and now planned to put their first draft proposals to a public meeting (hosted by the Priority for People group) on the 23rd June, to Bradford on Avon Town Council at their meeting on the 29th June and to the Bradford on Avon Area Board on the Area Board on 21st July.
- David Moss recounted that the proposals from Colin Buchanan were likely to include: Inner and outer zones with gateways, wider pavements and narrower carriageways, redesigned junctions, easier pedestrian crossing, slower (and less) traffic, fewer (or no) traffic signs and painting on streets and higher quality paving materials and street furniture. However the proposals did not consider issues around air quality, buses, heavy lorries and parking. The group expressed concern that these areas were going to be considered separately to the Historic Core Zone project.
- Gerald Milward Oliver asked the area board to

Give Priority for People status on the Area Board to satisfy Wiltshire Council

Work with Priority for People and WC to make the BoA Community Area a pilot for a new kind of approach to addressing highways, transport and related issues (including air quality & low carbon) within a predominantly rural area

Work with Priority for People to bring together public concerns and ambitions to build a mechanism for delivering results — including parish-based plans that enable the Area Board to argue for action

A discussion followed which included the following points:

- Cllr Tonge responded to the criticisms of the speed review by explaining that, given public concern over the cost of consultants, the speed limit review could not take into consideration every geographical feature of an area as this would have elevated the cost considerably. He also advised that Town and Parish Councils were asked to comment on the proposals as they were the local elected representatives of communities.
- The chair asked if Parish Councils would be prepared to initiate Parish Plans in their areas. Wingfield Parish Council explained that this had been investigated but the problem was the cost of consulting on and producing parish plans. There was also concern locally that these plans had no legal basis and were not binding. Westwood Parish Council also responded to say that it had been decided a parish plan was not needed at their last parish council meeting. Limpley Stoke Parish Council responded to say that in Limpley Stoke, the parish plan had been put together with volunteers at very little cost and had given the parish council an important strategic guide for what to do.

Decision

Priority for People should be given formal status as partners to the Bradford on Avon Area Board for all matters relating to the Historic Core Zone project.

Priority for People were invited to undertake work with parishes to ensure it fully represents transport issues across all of the community area to enable the group to become a formal partner to the board outside Bradford.

Priority for People would be invited to update the relevant chapter of the revised community area plan in

	<p>partnership with the Community Area Partnership and is invited to propose how this should be done.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everybody for their updates.</p>	
36.	<p><u>Discussion: Forward Work Plan</u></p> <p>The Chairman had requested that attendees spent five minutes thinking about whether the upcoming forward work plan reflected current issues in the community, and whether there were any other issues attendees would like to see on the future agendas.</p> <p>The following topics were put forward as future agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Funding. • Allocation Updates. • Services provided by English Landscapes and the quality of work provided. • Adult Health & Social Care. 	
37.	<p><u>Community Grant Applications</u></p> <p>The Chairman posed the question, “Does the Bradford on Avon Area Board want a grants working group”?</p> <p>Points made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More scrutiny of grants was needed. • More competition for grant funding would be beneficial to grants process. • Insufficient time was currently given to the applications at meetings. <p><u>Decision</u></p> <p>The Community Area Manager would continue to carry out criteria assessments for the eligibility of grant applications.</p> <p>A group would be set up, comprising Wiltshire Council board</p>	

	members and Parish representatives to review and comment on grant applications before they were passed on to the Area Board members to consider at the Area board meeting.	
38.	<u>Future Meeting Dates</u> Wednesday 21 July 2010 – Westwood Social Club Wednesday 22 September 2010 – Bradford on Avon Social Club Wednesday 24 November 2010 – venue TBC	
39.	<u>Evaluation and Close</u> Attendees were asked to complete the evaluation sheets that were included in their agenda packs.	
	<u>Partner Update Reports</u>	