

Report to Calne Area Board
Date of meeting 6 October 2015
Title of report Update from the Air Quality Working Group

Purpose of the Report:

- **To note that the group has met and the actions and discussions that are outlined in these notes.**
- **To identify volunteers to set up a task group to plan and fund a new Beat the Street project.**



Calne Air Quality Working Group (AQWG)

Notes of the working group meeting: 10th September 2015

Attendees: **GA** Cllr Glenis Ansell (Wiltshire Council), **AH** Anne Henshaw (Calne Area Transport, CCAP), **CB** Charles Boase (Calne Town Council), **RK** Rachel Kent (Wiltshire Council – Public Health Specialist), **GT** Gary Tomsett (Wiltshire Council – Public Protection Team Leader), Jane Vaughan (Wiltshire Council - Calne Community Engagement Manager).

1. **Apologies:** Sue Wallace (Calne Environmental Network), Peter Knight (Calne Environmental Network), Peter Alberry (Compton Bassett Parish Council)

2. **Siting monitoring equipment (formerly at Woodlands):**

GT reported that nitrogen dioxide recording equipment has been moved from the Woodlands Club as the club has closed. GA asked if it would be possible to re-site at the Methodist Church on Silver Street, following a discussion it was decided that GT would ask Peter Nobes to arrange a site visit with GA and CB.

GT also reported that 'Syrus' equipment has been relocated in Calne (Fine particulate monitor)

3. **A4 Status –**

GA explained that the A4 is currently a 'lorry route' and asked whether it is possible to try and get it declassified. AH explained that it is defined as a 'Local Lorry Route' in the Core Strategy, based upon economic requirements. AH thought it might be worth looking at changes in local changes in land use (eg economy to residential) since that definition was adopted.

ACTIONS

GT arrange for Peter Nobes to hold a site visit with GA and CB.

The group decided that it needed to work out exactly what it wanted to achieve, in order to discuss with Highways Officers.

The group also discussed the possibility of working with neighbouring communities in Marlborough, Corsham, Chippenham. Where similar aspirations may be at play.

AH explained that the Our Place Project (A4 tourist road working group) is looking at issues around promoting the A4 across all of these communities. As Anne sits on the A4 working group, she offered to raise this subject on behalf of the AQWG.

AH would raise this subject of working at the A4 tourist route working group.

4. Wiltshire Air Quality Plan –

RK/GT reported that Wiltshire Council has now adopted the Wiltshire Air Quality Plan and is available to view on the Wiltshire Council website. This has now been submitted to DEFRA who have come back with questions and comments, they seem to be impressed with the community approach that has been taken.

We now await official DEFRA approval.

5. Calne Air Quality Action Plan

It was noted that this will be a living document that is updated as an ongoing process. GA asked for this to form the first item on future agendas.

a. Promotional Campaign

- Branding and promotion of the issue and group to the wider community area. It was felt that there is no specific work to be undertaken at the moment, however actions linking to it may arise through the following agenda items.

b. Travel to school

- Beat the Street – feedback and future plans. GA explained that the project was a huge success, but was sad that it fizzled out a bit at the end. RK reported that there had been 24% participation from the towns that were involved.

It was felt that there was an overwhelming desire in the community for the project to run again.

The group discussed how this could be facilitated through the community and was decided to ask the Area Board to try and identify local people who would form a task group to work on planning and funding another Beat the Street.

- Walking Bus – The group reflected on the fact that the development of Beat the Street in Calne had initially arisen as a result of trying to encourage walking bus schemes. It

Ask the Area Board to identify a planning group to try and achieve a 2nd Beat the Street Project.

JV contact

was felt that the group should now try again to engage with local schools. It was decided to invite the Head teachers from Fynamore and Marden Vale (formerly St. Dunstons) Schools to explore possibilities.

(Thomas Brewer, Fynamore and David Mayer, Marden Vale).

c. Encouraging/enabling cycling

- Cycle stands at GP. Surgeries – JV reminded the group that the scheme had been funded by the Area Board in Feb 2015. The group had not had a response from all of the surgeries and so it was decided that GA would write to them again

GA write to GP practices.

d. Encouraging/enabling walking

- Promoting existing walking groups. The group felt that this action was being explored by the Our Place Project and that they should concentrate on supporting initiatives arising from that group.
- 'Walkers Welcome' initiative

JV reported that the Our Place Project had explored opportunities associated with this initiative. It was understood that it had not been taken up at this time.

e. Tree Planting schemes

- Planting and siting Silver Birch trees - JV reminded the group that the Area Board had awarded funds to plant Silver Birch trees in the Air Quality Management Area in February 2015. As it was now a good time to plant trees the group wanted to advance this piece of work as soon as possible. GA/CB/AH and JV would meet before the next meeting to identify where trees would be planted and to progress action with the Town Council.

GA/CB/AH/JV meet 30/09/15 2pm. Venue tbc.

6. Recommendations/update for the Area Board

The Area Board would be asked to

- **Note that the group has met and the actions and discussions that are outlined in these notes.**
- **Identify volunteers to set up a task group to plan and fund a new Beat the Street project.**

7. **Next meeting** – It was decided that meetings should be set in advance from now on, the next would take place on 12th Nov 2015, 3:30pm and every 8 weeks afterwards.

Notes of this meeting were taken by Jane Vaughan.