

Update for Melksham Area Board

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| Name of Parish/Town Council | Melksham Without Parish Council |
| Date of Area Board Meeting | 13 April 2016 |
| Headlines/Key successes | |

- Flooding to properties prevented despite heavy storms (Storm Katie) due to proactive, preventative work undertaken by Flood Wardens, Parish Council and Wiltshire Council. Shaw & Whitley Flood Wardens now branching out to become Community Emergency Volunteers for all eventualities, not just floods. Melksham Without Parish Council's **Flood Warden scheme** being used as a Case Study for Wiltshire Council/Environment Agency Flood Training on 5th April as example of good practice with the Clerk in attendance to present and answer questions.

- Great community engagement with local residents with several meetings being held on **Community Emergency Response plans**, working in tandem with the Town Council. Good turnout at meetings held at the Town Hall, Bowerhill Village Hall and Whitley Methodist Church. More public meetings planned.

Officers, Councillors and residents all attending regular training sessions with Bradford on Avon Community Emergency volunteers and sharing experience/good practice.

- **Recycling and Partnership working at its best.** Planings from the roadworks on the A350 at Beanacre, were delivered to Shaw Village Hall to resurface their car park, organised with the Area Highways Engineer and contractors Atkins.

- Triggered by the Apprentice Week advertised by Wiltshire Council in March, the Parish Council are now seeking a young person to join the busy office team as an **Apprentice** working towards NVQ Level 2 in Business Administration.

Projects

- Taking devolved service of all **Wiltshire Council owned play areas** in the Parish; quotes being sought to bring play areas up to Parish Council standards.

All Parish Council owned and maintained play areas are **Non Smoking areas** with signage provided by Wiltshire Council to be erected.

- Developing robust **Community Emergency Response plan** and volunteer recruitment, working closely with Melksham Town Council. Joint publication schedule drawn up with local stakeholders.

- Developing operational delivery of SIDs (**Speed Indicator Device**) taken on

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from Wiltshire Council in conjunction with Melksham Town Council and Atworth Parish Council. Support from CATG with capital expense for new batteries.

- Working with local community and action groups on entries into CPRE **Best Kept Village Competition** and RHS Britain in Bloom **Its your Neighbourhood** entries. Building on success of many “**Clean for the Queen**” events held across March.
- Multiple **large planning applications** in the Parish currently being considered 450 houses approved, new applications for 100, 150 and 235 homes to be decided. New Air Ambulance operational HQ approved for within the Parish.
- Continued joint working and support of **Melksham Neighbourhood Plan** with community consultation events planned for May/June.
- Orders now placed for 7no. **Community Access Defibrillators**, supported by grant funding from Melksham Area Board. Now working on successful installations and hosting agreements and engagement with residents for awareness training. To be installed at:
 1. Shaw Village Hall
 2. Whitley Reading Rooms
 3. The New Inn, Berryfield
 4. The Pilot Inn, Bowerhill
 5. Pavilion, Bowerhill Sports Field
 6. The Water Meadow pub, East of Melksham
 7. St Barnabas Church, Beanacre

Forthcoming events/Diary dates

- **Annual Parish Meeting** on Monday 11th April at new Forest & Sandridge School, Cranesbill Road. 7pm refreshments for 7.30pm start.

Find out what has been happening in the Parish over the last year, and the plans for the future. Plus more on the parish becoming “Dementia Friendly” and having “Safe Places”. Grant awards to be presented to local organisations.
All welcome

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- **AGMs:**
Whitley Reading Rooms – Tuesday 12th April at 8pm

BASRAG (Berryfield and Semington Road Action Group – Thurs 14th April at 7pm at Berryfield Village Hall

Signed: Teresa Strange, Clerk, Melksham Without Parish Council

Date: 31st March 2016

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