

Wiltshire Council

AGENDA ITEM 12

Melksham Area Board  
13<sup>th</sup> April 2016

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## Melksham Area Board 2015/ 2016

### Overview

During the 2015/16 period there have been 6 Area Board meetings, with an average attendance of 88.

15<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – Semington Village Hall, 40 attendees

17<sup>th</sup> June – Melksham Assembly Hall, 42 attendees

9<sup>th</sup> July – Melksham Town Hall, 76 attendees (Older person theme)

9<sup>th</sup> September – Melksham Assembly Hall, 145 attendees

18<sup>th</sup> November – Seend Community Centre, 66 attendees (Community Safety theme)

24<sup>th</sup> February 2016 – Melksham United Church, 160 attendees (Melksham Campus theme)

The Melksham Area Board also hosted the Community Resilience/ Emergency Planning workshop on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015, with 8 of the 11 parish councils represented and 54 attendees in total. Parish Councils across the community area have put this into action with a number of emergency plans now well underway.

### Community grants

The Melksham Area Board has awarded 43 community grants this year with the allocated funding of £56,673. These grants have enabled community groups to undertake projects totalling £209,230. The leverage is therefore £3.70. A few responses from the grant recipients are as follows:

**Melksham Community Area Partnership** - *The bowser has made a huge difference to the town. Already well known for its superb floral displays during the summer, the bowser means volunteers can ensure displays are kept watered and fresh, all of which can only help Melksham's efforts towards a Gold Award in the South West in Bloom competition. It's helped engender a team spirit amongst volunteers by showing that they matter and builds on the strong sense of community which is one of Melksham's greatest assets. Thanks to the Area Board for helping make this happen!*

**Bulkington Village Hall** - After removing some 14 square meters of damaged floor boards and joists the estimated repair and redecoration costs were over £5,000. A high volume air extractor fan and under floor ventilation system has been installed to improve the underfloor ventilation. The repairs have now been completed and the hall is in use. The management committee consider that we were extremely fortunate in receiving a grant from the Area Board which has enabled us to restore our hall for use by our villagers.

**Riverside Club** - The flat roof of the above was 45 years old and deteriorating badly but with the help of the Area Board Grant we were able to renew the decking and coverings and upgrade the insulations to current standards. It never rains but what it pours and at the same time as the above, the large kitchen which was originally built for meals on wheels was condemned and again with the help of another grant from the Area Board we were able to refit it to continue to provide meals for the Rainbow Club and others.

The full list of successful recipients of grants this year are as follows:

Friends of St Georges School Semington	Avon Bowls Club
Melksham Community Area Partnership	Broughton Gifford and Holt Scouts
Bulkington Village Hall	West Wiltshire Model Railway Circle
Melksham Music Festival	Atworth Parish Council
The Learning Curve	Poulshot Ladies Club
Wiltshire Mind	YMCA Green Shots Nursery
Melksham Adventure Centre	Young Melksham
Melksham Senior's Forum	Seend Trust and Community Centre
Shaw and Whitley Community Café	West Wiltshire Multi Faith Forum
ReaadEasy Melksham	Bloom in Melksham
Shaw & Whitley pre school	Poulshot Village Trust
AFC Melksham Disabled Football Club	Broughton Gifford PC (Returned Cheque)
Broughton Gifford and Holt Scouts	Atworth Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee
Melksham Without PC	1st Bowerhill Scout Group
Keevil PC	Avon Bowls Club
Riverside Club	St John Ambulance
Atworth Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee	1st Bowerhill Scout Group
	Melksham & District Girlguiding

## Community Area Transport Group

During the 2015/ 16 the CATG has approved the following schemes:

- Improvements to Zebra Crossing on Bath Road, Atworth
- Melksham Kenilworth Estate – 20mph speed limit
- Seend High St traffic management within narrow section (successfully bid for substantive funding to enable this project to take place)
- Bollard for Bowmans Ct, Melksham
- Footway link between Blackmore Rd to Malvern Close
- Footway link Hurricane Road to Grassmere
- Dropped kerbs at Corsham Road, Whitley
- Dropped kerbs at DeHavilland Place, Bowerhill
- Handrails down Keevil Main Street
- Melksham Station board and signage improvements

The group also successfully worked in partnership with Wiltshire Council, Melksham Without Parish Council, Forest and Sandridge School Governors, Green Square to deliver the Forest and Sandridge new path in time for the schools opening.

## Local Youth Network

The Local Youth Network (LYN) has had an amazing first year. An established and strong LYN management group with varied adult stakeholder representation from within the Melksham community area. The group also has 4 dedicate seats for young people, some of which have presented at the Area Board. The voice and opinion of these young people is held in high regard by the group which has enhanced the success of the LYN. The Melksham LYN was one of the only groups across the county who deployed their full allocation of funding during 2015/16. Some of the successful recipients were as follows:

**Mini Bus** - This grant has also enabled them to maintain a mini bus donated by Seend Community Shuttle. This shuttle provides young people in the whole Melksham Community Area with transport to and from the club and holiday activities.

**Voice your choice consultation** - This was held at the assembly hall. It was an event that invited young people to have their say on how and what they wanted to happen with their ring-fence funding.

**Genshin Kai School of Martial Arts** - For the delivery of a programme targeting anti-bullying and raising self-esteem, for disengaged and vulnerable young people with a particular emphasis on young females, and the associated protective clothing.

**Melksham & Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club** - To setup a sustainable delivery supporting, SEN and physically disabled young people. This grant included specialist training and equipment, Also, some building modifications in order they complied with the DDA (Disability Discrimination Act).

**Spice Time Credit** - This is a programme where Young people volunteer their time on positive community activities and in return receive credits against trips during the school holidays. This has been a fantastic success with many positive communications from councillors and community members praising the young people on their efforts.

**Bowerhill Scouts** - To hold a ring fenced welfare bursary that will financially support those from low income families. Also, training and permit costs to enable new experiences for all the young people.

**Young Melksham** - To employ dedicated sessional youth workers for two years for the delivery of positive activities, informal education and guidance on social and moral challenges that face our young people today.

To establish a youth club at the Canberra building that would create a dedicated youth space and ownership by the young people. Also, offering a safe environment where they could express themselves and have viewpoints challenged and explored without judgment. The club delivers 3 sessions per week with over 120 members and growing with many who return time and time again. During the Holidays there are also plans to run activities during the daytime utilising the building and its grounds. The funding has also supported the annual You Choose! small grant funding held as part of the Melksham Young people's awards.

### **Health and Wellbeing Centre (formerly Campus)**

The Melksham Area Board have worked closely with Wiltshire Council, partners and the community to agree the Market Place improvements and finalise the accommodation schedule for the Health and Wellbeing Centre.

Planning permission and tender to take place later this year with work anticipated to start on site in early 2017. The Market Place improvements are due to get underway in September 2016.

The new home for Melksham Football Club and Melksham Rugby Club at Woolmore Farm is due to be ready for August 2016.

### **Bowerhill and Hampton Park Business Initiative**

The Bowerhill and Hampton Park estate is key for the Melksham and Wiltshire economy, and it is important that businesses, the Council and others work together to improve the long term vibrancy and attractiveness of the Business Park. A steering group was set up and in September 2015 the first newsletter was distributed to over 150 businesses, large and small. The group is still in the formative stage.

Bowerhill is changing; witnessing a gradual regeneration. The introduction of Herman Miller, the new link road, and the hangars are coming down and businesses are expanding. In the Spring edition of the newsletter there are contributions from some of the businesses, information on a range of issues including apprenticeships, help/support from the Council, planning, Air Ambulance relocation, Melksham Neighbourhood Plan and Emergency

planning. The purpose of the newsletter is to give information and contact details to help businesses. Whilst this is put together and distributed by Wiltshire Council it is 'your' newsletter and the group want to hear views, successes, challenges and importantly what Wiltshire Council and other organisations can do for the businesses of the area.

### **Health and Wellbeing Group**

The group attracts a wide range of professionals from all parts of local health services, both professional and voluntary. Numbers are continuing to increase at every meeting and attendees exchange information about the services they offer, thus enabling a personally tailored service to patients, above and beyond the conventional medical needs. Plans are in place for the group to continue to grow in 2016/17.

### **Other projects**

**Magna Carta** - enabled young people to take part in a countywide parade through the streets Salisbury. Having designed their individual barons and supporting banners with a theme that they felt reflected the community they lived in (young bright and going places).

**No Cold Calling Zones** – supported the successful installation of No Cold Calling zones in Atworth, Queensway area, Melksham and Chalfield Crescent/ Fullers Close, Melksham.

**Clean for the Queen** – supported partners and the community to organise 8 local litter picks in preparation for the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Communities have been provided with equipment to make this a sustainable activity.

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