



## **CCAN Mid Year Report to the Area Board,**

30 November 2010.

In our second year CCAN continues to build on the work to establish a strong working Partnership to support the Area Board and to provide a focus for the issues of the community area. An immediate headline is the stronger relationships established with the Parish Councils where we are pleased to report that Box, Colerne and Lacock are all represented on the Steering Group and are increasingly involved in projects with the Action Groups. There is now a working level meeting arranged at the level of the Town and Parish Clerks to co-ordinate respective work plans and avoid any overlap of effort and, in due course, to assure the mutual relationship between Town, Parish and Community Plans.

CCAN hosted a potentially difficult Hustings event at the start of the year which was well supported and has since arranged a successful meeting of the Area Board Councillors with Town and Parish Council representatives and the CCAN Steering Group. A lively open evening and AGM was held at Hartham Park identifying a number of issues to be incorporated into the Network Action Plan. We also held a first meeting of a potential Health Forum which we hope will gain further support and momentum.

The established Action Groups run in partnership with Transcoco continue to thrive and gain the respect of Wiltshire Council staff on the basis of the support and evidence provided. Research and Reporting are key tasks that it is recognised can be safely delegated to the Partnership.

The Transport Group is progressing the initial audit and report produced regarding the state of bus stops and bus timetable information provided across the community area and working closely with Council staff and the Portfolio holder to improve the basic service provided. Positive proposals have been made regarding the way in which bus service information is presented at individual stops and made available through texting and internet links. Provision of new services, namely the zig zag service and the Town Ten, has been supported by the Action Group and publicity and leaflets for the launch of the Town Bus was funded and arranged through sponsorship obtained by the Action Group Chair. Further work is to be undertaken to review the bus routes and usage across the community area. Consideration is being

given to a wider forum that may develop into a Public Transport Partnership. Credible work has also been delivered in support of proposed cycle route improvements to link the Town Centre and schools with outlying areas with good partnership working between School, Town Council, Transcoco, MoD, Wilts Council and Parish level representatives.

The Energy and Environment Group remain active and passionate about the conservation cause and are now leading on the part night light project to identify and recommend street lights that could safely be switched off between midnight and 5am to save electricity, reduce our carbon footprint and enable residents to have a better night's sleep. A good number of volunteers have been walking the streets of the community area to audit the maps provided by Wiltshire Council and have identified several hundred potential street lights for switching off during this period.

The CCAN AGM brought in new members to the Steering Group which now has partner links into the Parishes, Town Council, Pound Arts Trust, Civic Society, Westlea, Library Service, Transcoco and Youth Groups. The Steering Group meets bi-monthly and continually monitors the progress of the Action Groups and reviews the Community Plan. Priorities remain to deliver a CCAN website as a core part of our communication strategy and to update the Community Plan in 2011. Good progress has been made in terms of developing the network of links to community area clubs, groups and societies which it is hoped will be further exploited with the new website.

We continue to support WFCAP with a member representative on the Forum and are developing administrative links with neighbouring Partnerships in Chippenham and Melksham as we look to share successes and frustrations. A link to GROW has also now been made.

The most recent involvement for CCAN has been in the consultation for the proposed Community Campus working closely with the Town Council and the Workplace Transformation Team in Wiltshire Council. The consultation is still running and the intention is for CCAN to provide a report to the Area Board and Council of views, concerns and ideas gathered from public meetings held during the consultation period.

We believe that the presence of CCAN as the Area Partnership is becoming better known across the community area but there remains much to be done to develop a functioning network and to motivate the levels of support and interest envisaged by both Wiltshire Council and the Government. The new website is due to be launched imminently and this will have a considerable impact in raising the awareness of CCAN and its dissemination of information. However, there remains a great deal of reliance on key individuals and the collective effort of a reasonably small number of people at the core of the Network. Direction, support and publicity for all Area Partnerships is required from Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire Assembly to develop

true partnership working and community level engagement in community affairs. The recent examples of Wiltshire Council involving the community in decisions over Local Transport Planning, Street Lights and Community Campus are welcomed and it is through such projects that it is hoped to engage with an increasingly wide number of community residents.

The support of the Community Area Manager and the Area Board Councillors is much appreciated and we look forward to continuing to develop partnership relationships at all levels.

Christine Reid

Chair

Corsham Community Area Network