

Update for Melksham Area Board

Name of Parish/Town Council	Melksham Without Parish Council
Date of Area Board Meeting	8 February 2017

Headlines/Key successes

- Refurbishment of Berryfield and Kestrel Court play areas; including request of Bowerhill Primary School council for extra basketball hoop at Kestrel Court (devolved service from Wiltshire Council of these play areas)
- SID (Speed Indicator Device) successfully being relocated between Melksham Without, Melksham Town and Atworth parishes every 14 days at proven speeding sites (eligible metrocount)
- Melksham Without Parish Council have taken over responsibility and cost of cleaning all Wiltshire Council bus shelters in the Parish (8no) on a regular basis (every 3 months)
- 8 sessions of Training held across the parish to accompany the Community Access Defibrillators installed in the Summer resulting in 92 residents, local businesses, councillors and council staff being trained
- Continued joint working on Melksham Neighbourhood Plan.
- Initiated new opportunity for Clerks of the Parish and Town Councils in the Melksham Community Area to meet every 2 months to share information/best practice informally (opportunity the alternate month to meet with the SLCC Wiltshire Branch)
- The Parish Council set the Precept for 2017/18 at £178,000 which is £43,000.27 less than in 2016/17, a decrease of 19.5%. The contribution of an average Band D household is £70.19, a rise of £1.25 (10p per month) an increase of 1.81% on last year. The Council agreed that although there was a loss of Precept Income from the movement of 733 houses out of the parish (some £46,000 less), it had not reduced the Parish Council's liabilities in any way and therefore there would have to be an increase to the average Band D payment just to reach a "standstill" position. The Council had taken on a lot of additional responsibility in the last year (Wiltshire Council play areas, cleaning of bus shelters including those of Wiltshire Council, supporting public toilets in town and the decision to take on the ex George Ward playing fields in the Parish) and had been restrained in its planned Expenditure for 2017/18.
- The Council's facebook page is [Melksham Without Parish Council](#) or for additional community news find and friend request [Teresa Strange \(Clerk to Melksham Without\)](#). On Twitter the Council's account is [@melkshamwithout](#)

Update for Melksham Area Board

Forthcoming events/Diary dates

- Annual Parish Meeting on Mon 27th March, 6.30 for refreshments for 7.00pm start, including grant cheque presentations to local groups

- Neighbourhood Plan public consultation event Thurs 9th February 6-8pm at Melksham Rugby Club

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Following the successful Seniors Community Day held in June, the Parish Council will be supporting a similar event being held on Sat 22nd April 10am – 3pm at Melksham Assembly Hall where local groups and organisations will be able to showcase their services and activities to the residents

Signed: Teresa Strange, Clerk

Date: 30th January 2017