

# ***Update for Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board***

<b>Update from</b>	<b>Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council</b>
<b>Date of Area Board Meeting</b>	4 July 2018

## **Headlines/Key Issues**

- At the RWB Mayor Making ceremony on 10<sup>th</sup> May, Cllr Mike Farrow was elected as Mayor for the Civic year 2018-19. Cllr Steve Watts was also elected as Deputy Mayor. RWB Town Council gives thanks to Cllr Steve Bucknell for his hard work as Mayor during 2017-18.
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- The RWB South by-election on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018 returned the Liberal Democrat candidate Eve Silvester with 50% of the vote. The turnout was 28.6%. Eve has since attended her first Council meeting. The current make up of the council is nine Conservative councillors to seven Liberal Democrats councillors.
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- The Salvation Army Housing Association (SAHA) presented high level plans for their proposals for the ex-Wiltshire Council Marlborough Road Depot site to the Town Councillors. The proposal is for a significant number of units of social housing on the currently abandoned site. The Town Council reviewed the initiative and raised questions for consideration by SAHA. The official planning application is expected in the next few months.
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- The majority of work on the Jubilee Lake Erosion Project have now been completed. Disarmed WWII ordnance excepted (See March report), this project has progressed very successfully and is expected to be delivered under budget. The outstanding item, a new foot bridge, has been placed on order and expected to be delivered before the end of July 2018.
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- The Town Council is soon expecting to take over the lease of an area of land next to Sparrow Lane from Wiltshire Council. RWBTC has launched an initiative to determine what improvements the Town's residents wish to see done with this land.
  - The multi-million pound upgrade of M4 Junction 16 has now been completed. RWB residents and Wiltshire/Swindon car drivers have patiently put up with many months of disruption during this development. Most road users report that the new layout has improved traffic flow during the rush hour periods. Drone footage of the completed M4 Junction 16 scheme can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/bOVSw45qmtI> (Copyright Peter Brett Associates LLP 2018)