

# MINUTES

## Agenda Item No. 5

**Meeting:** AMESBURY AREA BOARD  
**Place:** The Bowman Centre, Shears Drive, Archers Gate, Amesbury, SP4 7XT.  
**Date:** Tuesday 8 December 2009  
**Start:** 7:00pm  
**Finish:** 9:57pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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### In Attendance:

#### Wiltshire Councillors

Mike Hewitt (Chairman), John Noeken, John Smale (Vice Chairman), Ian West, Fed Westmoreland, Graham Wright.

John Thompson - Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Communities and Libraries.

#### Wiltshire Officers

Brad Fleet – Service Director  
Karen Linaker – Community Area Manager  
Lisa Moore – Democratic Services Officer  
Phil Tilley - Transportation and Development Services Manager

#### Parish Councils

Allington PC – G Barnes  
Amesbury TC – R Fisher  
Bulford PC – G Burt  
Durnford PC – S Langdon  
Durrington TC – D Healing  
Figheldean PC – S Banton  
Idmiston PC – P Fisher  
Newton Tony PC – S Stubbs  
Orcheston PC – S Shepherd  
Shrewton PC – P Sweet  
Tilshead PC – N Bayne  
Winterbourne Stoke PC – P Stoner

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**Partners**

Inspector Martyn Sweett – Wiltshire Police

Jo Howes – NHS Wiltshire

Bill Dowling, Graham Lawrence and David Marks - MOD

Norman Bayne and John Richardson – SCAP

**Public Attendance: 24**

**Total Attendance: 53**



<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Amesbury Area Board, and thanked Amesbury Town Council for all of the hard work that had gone in to organising the building of the Bowman Centre.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman announced that a DVD on the Speed Limit Review, would be circulated to all Parish Councils across Wiltshire during December and January, followed by an eight week period for comments to be returned.</p> <p>The Chairman also informed the Board about the Community Payback Initiative, being run by the Wiltshire Probation Service. The aim of the scheme was to provide free labour from offenders on a community service, to projects around the community.</p> <p>Stan Stubbs from Newton Tony Parish Council spoke in support of the scheme, and gave a few examples of work which had been carried out in Newton Tony by offenders. Some of these were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decoration of the Village Hall.</li> <li>• River Bed Clearance.</li> <li>• Painting of Railings.</li> </ul> <p>Any one interested in the scheme should contact the Wiltshire Probation office on 01793 534259 or go on line and complete a form at: <a href="http://www.wiltshireprobation.org.uk/community/index.php">http://www.wiltshireprobation.org.uk/community/index.php</a></p> <p>Phil Tilley – (Transport and Development Services Manager) Confirmed that a Cabinet member decision had been made regarding the reconstruction of Bulford Bridge.</p> <p>Since authorisation had been granted to work longer hours, the repair works to the bridge would be cut back to six months rather than the previously forecast time period of seven and a half months.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Wiltshire Councillor – Ian West, who had to leave part way through the meeting. Joyce Amphlett – Tenants Rep.</p>	

4.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Councillor John Noeken declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 13 – Community Area Grants, application from Amesbury Town Council, as he was a member of it. Councillor Noeken left the room for the Item and did not vote.</p> <p>Councillor Fred Westmoreland declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 13 – Community Area Grants, application from Amesbury Town Council, as he was a member of it. Councillor Westmoreland left the room for the Item and did not vote.</p> <p>Councillor Graham Wright declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 13 – Community Area Grants, application from Durrington Town Council, as he was a member of it. Councillor Wright left the room for the Item and did not vote.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>That the minutes from the meeting held on the 13 October 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>	
6.	<p><u>Your Local Issues</u></p> <p>Karen Linaker - Community Area Manager, addressed the Board, and urged people to keep submitting their issues using the Issues system.</p> <p>Councillor Wright thanked Karen for her work in dealing with an issue in his area, in relation to speeding in the Packway, Larkhill.</p> <p>The Chairman updated the Board that there were a number of Parishes pursuing the options to put in place a network of cycleways in the area.</p> <p>Phil Tilley gave an update on the proposals of the Highways Agency (HA) to make alterations to Countess Roundabout, which included the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor road alignment alterations</li> <li>• Provision of signal controls on the roundabout</li> <li>• Updating signing on the A303 approaches</li> <li>• Imposing a 40mph speed limit on the A303 approaches</li> </ul> <p>Phil also informed the Board that works had been deferred from starting in September 2010, and would now probably start in spring to early summer 2011.</p> <p>Comments and questions from those present included:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The introduction of traffic lights on the approach to the roundabout was unlikely to be of benefit, in terms of controlling speed, as the main issue is traffic congestion on the roundabout.</li> <li>• If traffic lights are installed, they should be placed on the roundabout to prevent traffic building up on the roundabout.</li> <li>• The HA would formally consult with Parishes on these plans.</li> </ul> <p>A discussion then ensued on works at the Broken Cross Bridge. Key points made were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was anticipated that the works planned for Broken Cross Bridge would take less than a fortnight.</li> <li>• These works included drain repair and barrier replacement.</li> <li>• More thought should be given to local traders during road/bridge closures, as trade at the Winterbourne Post Office had been badly impacted by works to this bridge.</li> <li>• All repairs were carried out in order of priority. Pot holes should be reported to Clarence on 0800 232323.</li> <li>• The provisional start date for work to commence on Bulford Bridge is May 2010.</li> <li>• If the lights have to be four way, could the timings be altered so that the traffic flow coming from the north and south is given a greater time on green, to minimise traffic congestion and delays to journey time.</li> </ul> <p>Phil Tilley informed those present that he would pass on the concerns and comments discussed, to the relevant officer.</p>	<b>Phil Tilley</b>
7.	<p><u>Wiltshire Council's Spending Priorities</u></p> <p>Brad Fleet, Service Director introduced the item, explaining that this exercise was part of the consultation on the Council's budget for 2010-11. Residents' views were sought on how the Council's services should be prioritised, and this would form part of the consultation process prior to the Council setting the budget in February 2010.</p> <p>It was emphasised that the intention behind the process was to get a general indication of the public's views on the Council's overall spending priorities, rather than a detailed consultation on the exact figures within the budget.</p> <p>A short film was shown, which set out the main services provided by Wiltshire Council, how much these cost, and how they were funded. Following the film, those present were invited to complete voting cards which asked whether more, the same or less money should be spent on various services. The results from this Area Board would be made available later in the meeting, and the overall results would be</p>	

	<p>reported to the Cabinet.</p> <p>The results of the ballot exercise were as follows:</p> <p>The top three voted for in the 'Spend More' category were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintenance of existing roads</li> <li>2. Adult social care for older people</li> <li>3. Youth services</li> </ol> <p>The top three voted for in the 'Spend Less' category were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Archives and public records</li> <li>2. Museums and galleries</li> <li>3. Rights of way, footpaths and bridle ways</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>To note the results of the ballot exercise, and submit them to Cabinet for consideration.</b></p>	<p><b>Matthew Woolford</b></p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Update from the Community Area's Young People Representatives</u></p> <p>Kevin McCaffrey gave an update on behalf of the Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group (CAYPIG) and showed a DVD on The Durrington Bridging Project.</p> <p>At the last CAYPIG meeting in September 2009, four issues had been raised by the young people. Work on three of the issues was ongoing, and one had been deferred until a later date. The issues were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Young people had issues of feeling unsafe, when walking around in the evening.</li> <li>2. The group wanted a skate park, but with the weather and the dark evenings setting in, this issue would be pursued more in the spring/summer.</li> <li>3. How could the young people become involved with cleaning up the Amesbury area, by the introduction of a credit leisure scheme. – Work was underway to follow this up.</li> <li>4. Young people would like access to the internet at the Youth Centre in Amesbury. – Access was now available.</li> </ol> <p>Kevin explained how and why The Bridging Project had been set up, and how it provided positive activities, including drama, film production, gardening, and daytrips for young people with learning difficulties. He explained that the DVD had helped the project win a Wiltshire Young People's Award.</p>	

9.	<p><u>Issues for People with Disabilities in the Amesbury Area</u></p> <p>Karen Linaker explained that the Board had decided to give a dedicated slot on the agenda to this item, to honour the No Barriers week that Wiltshire Council had recently hosted.</p> <p>People were then asked to work in groups with the people on their table to come up with a list of barriers they felt people with disabilities faced living in the Amesbury Area, and to discuss potential ideas to overcome those barriers.</p> <p>A representative from each table then fed their findings back to the rest of the room, some of the barriers and possible solutions were:</p> <p><u>Transport:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Schemes, assistance, timetables etc need to be better communicated and advertised, i.e. bus timetables need to be easier to read and more accessible for people with disabilities, i.e. Braille, large print, displayed at the correct eye level</li> <li>▪ Better communication and promotion of community bus schemes, buddying, and a proper service after 6pm</li> <li>▪ Bus drivers needed training and education</li> <li>• Developers to actively consult with disabled people when wanting to build something new, such as putting in a new road scheme etc</li> <li>▪ Road crossings need to be improved and more were needed for people with sight impairments</li> <li>▪ Improved disabled parking needed in Salisbury Street in Amesbury</li> <li>▪ Buses for the rural villages especially, needed to be better designed for people with disabilities, including having a lowered entrance</li> <li>▪ Blue Badges – concern that the Links Scheme would not be able to keep their Blue Badges – Councillor John Thomson confirmed that, badges would now be issued to people with a short term disability on a three year term. Blue badges would be removed from Link Schemes on a phased basis, once all users had their own. John Thomson advised all present to contact him personally with any difficulties on this.</li> </ul> <p><u>Misperception/misunderstanding of the needs of people with disabilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better education was needed for all ages – as part of a two</li> </ul>	
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way dialogue between able bodied people and those with disabilities

- Some disabilities were obvious, some were hidden, especially brain tumour victims or people with mental health difficulties
- As a consequence of misunderstanding, people with disabilities were often not involved or engaged in local consultations or other matters and felt disenfranchised. This led to isolation, which was also hindered by the breakdown of family networks
- There was a need to continue/strengthen support for Link Schemes, Good Neighbour Schemes – the council was committed to supporting these schemes and agreed additional funding for them and to further develop the Good Neighbour Scheme
- Funding and finance was a real need for people with disabilities – especially to help them live life as independently as possible
- There needed to be opportunities for disabled people to develop their skills in order that they could live independently, but also as integrated members of society
- We need to develop new ways of ensuring all people with disabilities were included and engaged in the community and all that that meant

#### Accessibility to services and to buildings

- We needed improved policies that ensure improved accessibility to services and to buildings
- Services needed to get better at marketing and communicating themselves to disabled people
- Improved inter agency working was needed
- A one stop shop of advice would help
- More opportunities for disabled and able bodied to come together were needed
- The good practice of initiatives, such as the Bridging Project should be promoted better
- Especially need improved accessibility to services from leisure centres, including the Amesbury Sports Centre – to ensure that sports were accessible for all ages and all disabilities
- Improved and increased number of services for people who have specialist disability needs



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services needed to work in a more integrated way to ensure this improved accessibility</li> <li>• The development of ‘personal care facilities’ was welcomed, for people i.e. with diabetes who need a hygienic, private and decent environment in which to apply injections through the day</li> </ul> <p><u>Housing &amp; Neighbourhood Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing needs to be improved and suitable for service-men returning from duty who return with a disability, new accommodation was needed and improved access for housing adaptations was required</li> <li>• More work was needed to adapt the living space and surroundings for people living in council housing who have a disability.</li> <li>• Parish councils would benefit from additional advice on what play equipment they should install to make their facilities more suitable for children with disabilities</li> </ul> <p>The Community Area manager conformed that all points feedback from this exercise would be used to inform the Area Board and Community Area Partnerships future work.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Update from the Stonehenge Community Area Partnership (SCAP)</u></p> <p>Norman Bayne Vice Chairman of Stonehenge Community Area Partnership (SCAP) gave an update regarding the Partnership’s arrangements, and requested that funding for 2009/10 be released by the Board. Some of the points covered were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance at the AGM in July had been acceptable.</li> <li>• SCAP did not meet again, until November, where it discussed in particular, administration, funding and organisational matters.</li> <li>• SCAP still had much to do in raising its profile and furthering its plans.</li> <li>• SCAP aimed to put the villages together into six or seven clusters, so that a representative from each cluster could attend the steering group.</li> <li>• Progress, whilst slow initially, was being made and the Steering Group was resolved to taking the Partnership forward on a positive footing.</li> </ul> <p>Some comments and questions were raised, these included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bourne Valley Alliance (BVA) would maintain a watching</li> </ul>	

brief on the SCAP, but would continue to operate the BVA and only engage with the SCAP when it felt it should.

- Concern that the Board should issue funding only if the Partnership could demonstrate that it was making positive steps.
- Amesbury TC attended the meeting in November, and advised that whilst they would continue to support SCAP, they thought 22 parishes was too wide an area to cover, and would like to see a more robust plan written.
- The requirements of a Community Area Partnership was not clear, and an explanation in plain English should be written and circulated to all Parishes.
- The Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships could be asked to come and give some advice and support to SCAP.

Some of the key objectives of a Community Area Partnership are to:

1. Formulate a Plan to inform the Area Boards, which should then support Council service delivery, budget priorities, policies and demonstrate support for projects.
2. Support the Area Board and provide a source or research and intelligence gathering for it to inform recommendations and decisions.
3. Provide challenge to the Board
4. Lever in external funding for bigger projects.

**Karen  
Linaker /  
SCAP**

### **Decision**

**(1) To confirm an award of £5,865 to the Stonehenge Community Area Partnership to assist with its set up costs, running costs and capacity building in 2009/10, bringing the total funding approved in 2009/10 to £9,200, following a decision of the Implementation Executive to award £3,335 in March 2009.**

**(2) That in view of the Cabinet's review (to be reported in March 2010) and the Council's commitment to Community Area Partnership working, the release of any further funding in 2010/11 be subject to the following condition:**

***Before 1st April 2010 the Stonehenge Community Area Partnership should:***

***(a) set out how it is working to achieve the objectives and commitments of the Community Area Partnership Agreement***

***(b) demonstrate its progress in producing a community***

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>area plan</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(c) give a breakdown of its spending for 2009/10, and of its anticipated operating costs for 2010/11</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(3) The Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships to provide strong support to SCAP be requested.</b></p>	
11.	<p><u>Updates from Town and Parish Councils, the Police, the Army, NHS and other Partners.</u></p> <p>Jo Howes – NHS Wiltshire, explained that the Area Board and NHS Wiltshire would be hosting a Health Fair for the Amesbury Area on Thursday 25 February 2010. The Fair will be held at The Bowman Centre, Archers Gate, Amesbury, from 3.00 – 6.00pm. A seminar on health issues affecting people living in the Amesbury Community Area would follow on, starting at 6.30pm – 8.00pm. The NHS Wiltshire update was available as a hard copy, which could be found inside the agenda packs.</p> <p>Inspector Martyn Sweett of Wiltshire Police, gave an update, covering the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighbourhood police team for Amesbury Town comprised of Lucy Smith, Sarah O’Driscoll and one other, to be recruited.</li> <li>• Antisocial Behaviour in Harvard Park had provided an opportunity for the policing team to work with the young people in tidying up the area.</li> <li>• The Community Speed Watch Scheme had now recruited a full time administrator.</li> <li>• The area had twenty Police Officers who supported the Neighbourhood Policing teams.</li> <li>• The area had seen a decrease in dwelling burglaries and theft of motor vehicles.</li> </ul> <p>Inspector Sweett informed everyone that if people were finding it difficult to gather six interested people from their own village, to form a Speed Watch volunteer team, then several villages could club together to meet the criteria of six volunteers.</p> <p>The Chairman asked the Inspector if he could provide the Board with a current version of the names and faces leaflet, of the neighbourhood policing officers.</p> <p>Inspector Sweett agreed to provide this to the Board.</p> <p>For more information on the Community Speed Watch Scheme please contact Karen Linaker 07917 751728 or email <a href="mailto:Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk">Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk</a></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Insp. Sweett</b></p>

	<p>Paul Fisher - Idmiston Parish Council gave an update on the Pheasant Road closure, informing the Board that the works were behind schedule due to the bad weather conditions recently experienced. Tarmac had been working over the weekends and would be working over the Christmas period to make up time.</p> <p>There had been a recent incident at Idmiston Bridge involving two lady drivers in a standoff, neither one of them wishing to give way to the other. DSTL and Idmiston Parish Council had called a meeting to establish some measures which would prevent something like that occurring in the future.</p> <p>Roger Fisher - Amesbury Town Council informed the Board that they would be holding a Christmas Market the following week, in aid of charity.</p>	
12.	<p><u>Area Board Councillor Feedback from Meetings of Associated Groups</u></p> <p>Councillor John Noeken informed the Board that the Amesbury Sports Centre Management Body had last met on 29 October 2009, and had discussed a number of matters including finance, the need to establish a 'users group' and the opportunities to share facilities with the Amesbury Activity Centre. The next meeting would consider the current review of leisure facilities in Wiltshire.</p> <p>Councillor Graham Wright informed the Board that the Durrington Sports Centre Management Body had had a very positive meeting the previous week.</p>	
13.	<p><u>Funding and Grants</u></p> <p>a) <u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>Councillor John Noeken introduced the Item, and explained that he was the Chairman of the Grant Review Panel. Also on the panel this round was Tony Pryor Jones (Independent representative) and Sam Shepherd (Parish Council representative).</p> <p>Applicants that were present were invited to speak on their applications. After hearing from the applicants, the Board discussed the applications, and then voted on each one.</p> <p><b><u>Decision:</u></b>  <b>Orcheston Parish Council was awarded £2,128 towards their project to upgrade the existing Play Area in the village.</b>  <b><u>Reason</u></b> The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2009/2010 and would provide a valuable facility for families in the community.</p>	<p><b>Karen Linaker</b></p>

**Decision:**

**Durrington Town Council was awarded £4,995 towards their project to provide a Multi Use Games Area in Larkhill.**

**Reason The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2009/2010 and would provide a valuable facility for families in the community.**

**Decision:**

**That the application by 2<sup>nd</sup> St Leonard's Scout Group be deferred.**

**Reason The Board needed to receive written confirmation of the lease for the scout hut and confirmation regarding pre-conditions relating to the planning permission for the new scout hut, before confirming funding for the project.**

**Decision:**

**Amesbury Town Council was awarded £5,000 towards their project to provide teenage play equipment at Harvard Park.**

**Reason The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2009/2010 and would provide a valuable facility for young people in the community.**

**Decision:**

**Home-Start South Wiltshire was awarded £950 towards the provision of new office equipment for the volunteer team.**

**Reason The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2009/2010 and the service would provide a valuable facility for families of young children in times of difficulty.**

The Chairman thanked Councillor Noeken, Mr Pryor Jones and Mr Shepherd for their work on the Grant Review Panel. He invited any Parish who may be interested to nominate a representative to sit on the Panel.

**For more information on the Grant Review Panel please contact Karen Linaker on 07917 751728 or email**

**[Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

**b) Performance Reward Grant Scheme**

Councillor John Noeken explained that the Board had been asked to endorse a bid put to them by the Avon Valley College to purchase equipment to facilitate and furnish a new Alternative Living and Applied Learning Centre. He introduced Tony Way of Avon Valley College who gave an overview of the project.

With the funding Avon Valley College would adapt the centre to make it suitable for older and vulnerable users, and introduce an international internet facility, for military families to use when contacting family members serving abroad.

	<p><b><u>Decision:</u></b></p> <p><b>The Area Board agreed to support the bid from Avon Valley College, for £1,500 of funding towards their Alternative Living and Applied Learning Centre.</b></p>	<p><b>Karen Linaker</b></p>
<p>14.</p>	<p><u>Future Meeting Dates, Evaluation and Close.</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked every one for attending the meeting and informed them that the next meeting would start at an earlier time of 6.00pm.</p> <p>The next meeting would be held on 11 February 2010 at Durrington Village Hall, commencing at 6.00pm.</p> <p>Future meetings for 2010:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 February – Health Fair at The Bowman Centre, Archers Gate.</li> <li>• 29 April</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> July</li> <li>• 2 September</li> <li>• 21 October</li> <li>• 2 December</li> </ul>	