

# **MINUTES**

Meeting: SALISBURY AREA BOARD

Place: The Alamein Suite, City Hall, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury SP2 7TU

**Date:** 12 May 2011

Start Time: 7.00 pm Finish Time: 9.37 pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

James Hazlewood (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Tel: 01722 434250 or (e-mail) <a href="mailto:james.hazlewood@wiltshire.gov.uk">james.hazlewood@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>

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## In Attendance:

## **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Mary Douglas (Chairman), Cllr Christopher Cochrane (Vice Chairman), Cllr John Brady, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Bill Moss and Cllr Paul Sample

## **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Stephanie Denovan, Service Director for Schools and Learning Marianna Dodd, Salisbury Community Area Manager Lucy Murray-Brown, Campus & Operational Estate Management Lead Sarah Ward, WTP-Campus Developments James Hazlewood. Senior Democratic Services Officer

#### **Town and Parish Councils**

Salisbury City Council – Cllr Su Thorpe, Cllr John English, Reg Williams Laverstock and Ford Parish Council – Cllr Liz Dore, Cllr David Law, Cllr James Deal

#### **Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector David McMullin NHS Wiltshire – Alison Bell Explore – Chris Ford, Mary Paisey, Spurgeons – Martie Stanwell "Our Salisbury" – Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP) – Debrah Biggs, Charles Wells
 St Edmunds Community Association – Mary Stephens, Roger Stephens
 Harnham Neighbourhood Association – John McGarry
 Mothers' Union – Rosemary Allen
 Salisbury Tenants Panel – Colin Duller
 Churches Together – David Scrace
 Extended Services – Emma Procter

**Members of Public in Attendance: 32** 

Total in attendance: 63

Agenda Item No.	Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision
1.	Welcome and Introductions
	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Salisbury Area Board and invited the members of the Board to introduce themselves.
2.	Apologies for Absence
	Apologies for absence had been received from the following:
	<ul> <li>Cheryl Hill – Deputy Leader of Salisbury City Council</li> <li>Mike Franklin – Wiltshire Fire and Rescue.</li> </ul>
	In addition, Councillor Chris Cochrane had submitted apologies for a late arrival as he was attending another meeting.
3.	<u>Minutes</u>
	<u>Decision</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
	In relation to item 8 (Salisbury Vision) the Chairman reported that the feedback from the roundtable discussion had been shared with a number of partner organisations and council departments.
	Also, in relation to item 9 (Residents' Parking) Councillor John Brady had confirmed with officers that national legislation did not place any obligation on the Council to provide parking spaces for new developments.
4.	Declarations of Interest
	There were no declarations of interest.
	( <b>Note</b> – Later in the meeting, at item 8.2, Councillor Paul Sample declared a personal interest as his company had undertaken work for Explore. It was noted that this interest was not prejudicial).
5.	Chairman's Announcements
	The Chairman referred to the following announcements and information set out at pages 17-30 of the agenda:

- a. Waste Sites Consultation
- b. Digital Inclusion Superfast Broadband Survey
- c. End of Life Care
- d. Community Services Contract
- e. Older People's Accommodation Strategy
- f. Wessex Community Action Children and Families Community and Voluntary Sector Forum.

# 6. <u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG)</u>

The Chairman reported that two options were being prepared by officers for possible implementation at the site in Harnham Road:

- a signalled "puffin" crossing which would cost around £80,000; and
- a pedestrian refuge, which would cost around £20,000

These options would be considered at the next meeting of the Community Area Transport Group, from which a recommendation would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Board.

## 7. <u>Child Poverty</u>

Alison Bell, Public Health Lead for NHS Wiltshire, gave a presentation on Child Poverty.

The definition of Child Poverty was where children lived in a household whose income was less than 60 per cent of the median national income. Living in poverty was proven to have a huge impact on other areas of life, including education, health, being exposed to crime, and future earning potential; thus creating a cycle of poverty.

In three of Salisbury's wards, over 30% of children were living in child poverty. A further 8 wards were above the Wiltshire average (11%) for the percentage of children living in poverty.

Wiltshire Council was in the process of consulting on a draft strategy to address Child Poverty. This would be done through a multi-agency approach and related to services such as debt advice, take-up of free childcare, housing, provision of jobs, and maximising of benefits. In addition, it was important to maintain public awareness of child poverty, and to highlight the fact that the early years are crucial to ensuring equality of opportunity at school and later in life.

A number of strategic objectives had been identified for Wiltshire, which were set out in the delivery plan. In addition, local initiatives included:

- Volunteering and work experience opportunities
- Setting up work clubs places to meet and exchanges skills
- Promote take up of child care opportunities, e.g. taster sessions

• Encouraging parents to support their child's education.

The Chairman thanked Alison for the presentation and invited questions and comments:

- In response to a question, Alison confirmed that the Sure Start centres had not lost funding. Wiltshire Council had fought hard to protect these essential services, and it was hoped that more services could be linked up with Sure Start.
- Alison reported that 2010 data on child poverty was expected shortly, and it was anticipated that they would show a slight increase in the percentage of children living in poverty since 2008, as Indices of Multiple Deprivation had shown a decline across Wiltshire.
- Responding to a question, Stephanie Denovan (Service Director for Schools and Learning) confirmed that the "virtual" school support for children in care was still in operation. The figures at Key Stage 2 (11 year olds) were improving, and while providing this service to older children was more challenging, tracking and monitoring systems were in place.

## 8. Families

## 8.1. Children's Centres - Spurgeons

Martie Stanwell gave a presentation on the work of Spurgeons, the charity which currently ran the three children's centres in Salisbury.

Despite the drop in government funding, Wiltshire was committed to the maintenance of children's centres to support families with young children to ensure that every child had the best possible start in life. During 2010, a tendering process had been undertaken to seek agencies and charities to run Wiltshire's children's centres in "cluster settings". This had resulted in a change in management for the majority of children's centres.

In addition to the three children's centres in Salisbury, Spurgeons also ran a further three children's centres in the south of Wiltshire, and another three in the north of Wiltshire. This was out of a total of around 30 across the country.

The vision for the Salisbury children's centres was to narrow the gap to ensure that all 0-5 year old children could reach their full potential by:

- feeling and being safe
- being ready and able to learn
- identifying their strengths
- participating to make a difference
- feeling good about themselves.

This would be achieved through clear leadership, providing targeting and accessible services through multi-agency partnerships. It was also key to engage with parents, carers, and children and to build a community of support and expertise.

The Chairman thanked Martie for the presentation.

#### 8.2. Explore

Chris Ford, Chief Executive of Explore, gave a presentation on the work of Explore, a charity which sought to give young people opportunities to talk about marriage and relationships.

Chris explained that around 75% of young people said they anticipated being in a long term relationship at some point during their lives. Around the same number anticipated having children. However, only 5% had been given the opportunity to discuss relationships and to ask questions about what is it like to be in a relationship.

Explore was a charity which sought to address this imbalance, by taking married couples into schools, and giving young people the chance to question them about their relationship, and to learn from their experience. This methodology was unique, as it allowed the young people to drive the sessions, having first identified their hopes and fears about relationships.

It was estimated that 50% of all 16 year olds suffered that trauma of relationship breakdown in their families. Explore was based on the belief that society could flourish when marriage / relationships were stable.

The Chairman thanked Chris for the presentation.

In response to a question, Chris confirmed that Explore focused on marriage. Schools were able to bring in other agencies, if they wanted to explore other forms of relationship.

## 8.3. Roundtable discussion

The Chairman invited those present to break into small groups for a roundtable discussion on the following questions:

- 1. What are the main challenges for families?
- 2. How can I, or my organisation, work with the Children's Centres and/or Explore to help families overcome these challenges?

Each group was then invited to feed back ideas and comments on the issues. A full summary of the points made, including those submitted in writing after the

meeting, is attached as Appendix A to these minutes. Any resulting actions would be reported to the next meeting of the Area Board.

#### **ACTION: JAMES HAZLEWOOD**

## 9. Community Campus Project

The Chairman introduced Lucy Murray-Brown (Campus and Operational Delivery Programme) who gave a presentation on proposals to develop a Community Campus in Salisbury.

Lucy explained that a community campus was defined as "a building, or buildings, in a community area that will provide the services that the local community needs in an accessible location". This could include services currently provided by the Council, and possible co-location with partner agencies and voluntary organisations. The benefits of providing services from a single location included:

- Continued improvements in services
- Ease of access for customers
- Potential innovative management and operational arrangements
- Opportunity for capital investment in existing buildings to develop newer, more sustainable buildings
- Financial savings achieved through shared overheads (e.g. reception and accommodation)
- Reduction of long-term financial, environmental and operational pressure on operating aging, low quality buildings
- Rationalisation of buildings leading to around 40% savings in operational expenditure, and 40% reductions in carbon emissions.

In February 2011, Wiltshire Council's cabinet agreed the principle of campuses, and decided to develop campus proposals in a number of areas as part of the Preliminary Management Project. If supported by the Area Board, the Salisbury campus would become the ninth pilot scheme.

In Salisbury, work had already been on-going to relocate a number of services including the Learning Disability Day Service currently based at Sarum, and the Youth Service currently based at Grosvenor House. A number of options had been considered and sites had been evaluated for suitability for these and other services which required relocation. For a number of reasons, which were set out in the report, it was recommended that Five Rivers Leisure Centre would be the preferred option for the Salisbury Community Campus. This would involve an overall investment of around £8.5 million, £3.9 million of which would fund enhancement of facilities and maintenance backlog within the Leisure Centre.

It was proposed that "Shadow Community Operation Boards" (COBs) be established as steering groups for each individual campus project. These would consist of representatives of service users and other stakeholders, with

representation determined by the Area Board Members. The Shadow COB would report to, and make recommendations to the Area Board. Full draft terms of reference were set out on pages 35-38 of the agenda. A priority for the Salisbury Shadow COB would be to run a wide-ranging and comprehensive consultation to identify the services that the Salisbury community required to be provided from the campus.

The indicative timeline for the project in Salisbury would require the Shadow COB to run the consultation and develop a detailed proposal from June 2011 onwards. Following Cabinet approval of the proposal, planning and construction would take place from autumn 2011, and it was hoped that the facility would open in autumn/winter 2012.

Further information was available at the back of the meeting room, and also on the Council's website (<a href="www.wiltshire.gov.uk">www.wiltshire.gov.uk</a>).

The Chairman thanked Lucy for the presentation, and invited questions and comments:

- In relation to the relatively short timescale for undertaking the consultation and designing the facility, Lucy commented that a flexible design would be used, to allow the consultation to continue alongside design and construction.
- The Chairman encouraged any organisations who might want to get involved, to register their interest with the Shadow Community Operations Board.
- The Shadow Community Operations Board's draft terms of reference proposed that the membership of the board would include a Town/Parish Council representative, which in Salisbury would be from Salisbury City Council.
- Lucy confirmed that consideration would be given to develop a second Salisbury campus in the future as part of the Vision. However, that would be undertaken following full public consultation and so it was not possible to say where it might be located.
- Work would be carried out with all partner organisations in the area to avoid duplication of services and any on-going projects.
- A view was expressed that the campus was not well located for residents
  of Harnham. The Chairman commented that work was on-going to
  develop a community centre in Harnham, and that access had been a key
  factor in evaluating the possible sites. Lucy added that any planning
  application would require a detailed travel plan for access to the site.

- It was not yet clear exactly how big the campus facility would be, nor
  where in the Five Rivers site it would be located. This would be
  developed by the Shadow COB following the consultation process.
- Lucy explained that the campus pilot projects were an opportunity to test out the principles of community-led management, as promoted by the Localism Bill.
- It was confirmed that the Learning Disability Day Service had been consulted on the proposals, and had also selected Five Rivers as their preferred location.

The Chairman then invited comments from Councillors.

The view was expressed by some Councillors that the proposal was an excellent opportunity for Salisbury to be part of the first tranche of campus developments, and to benefit from significant capital investment whilst retaining the ability to engage with the process of shaping future services and service provision.

Concern was expressed by some Councillors that there was little opportunity for consideration of alternative sites, particularly given that Five Rivers was formerly a waste site, and that the Salisbury Vision identified Churchfields as a key site.

It was noted that informal discussions and briefings had been held with Councillors over the previous 18 months to gauge elected members' views on the evaluation of the sites. Although there were benefits to the Churchfields site as an option, it had been considered that the estimated costs of £15.9 million could be prohibitive, hence the recommendation for the Five Rivers option.

It was also emphasised that the Area Board was being asked to support the recommendation, which would then be approved by the Cabinet, and that further consultation with services, service users, public, and Councillors would take place in the meantime.

During debate, concern was also raised regarding the public involvement at the meeting. The Chairman clarified that the public had been given an opportunity to ask questions and give their views, and that the report had been publicly available for the requisite five working days prior to the meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be agreed with the following amendments:

- recommendation (d): the Area Board representative to be Councillor Richard Clewer
- recommendation (e): the consultation to include consideration of the security of the site and access using public transport and cycling
- recommendation (e): at least one month to be given for the community involvement and consultation.

An amendment was then moved and seconded to the motion, that recommendation (a) be amended to read "That the Salisbury Area Board supports the development of the Salisbury Campus at a suitable site". Upon this amendment being put to the vote, it was NOT CARRIED.

The Area Board then voted on the substantive motion, which was agreed as follows:

#### **Decision**

The Salisbury Area Board:

- a. supports the development of the Salisbury Campus at the Five Rivers Leisure Centre:
- b. makes an approach to the relevant Cabinet Member to secure formal approval of the extension of the Preliminary Management Project (PMP) to include Salisbury;
- c. initiates an interim shadow Community Operations Board (COB) to oversee the development of the new facilities and their future management, noting that the COB should include a Young Person's representative or a mechanism for young people to make specific representations;
- d. nominates Councillor Richard Clewer as the Area Board's representative to sit on the shadow COB;
- e. requests that the shadow COB actively consults with service users (Young people, disabled adults and their carers, etc) during the development of the plans for the new facilities, to include consideration of the security of the site and access using public transport and cycling. At least one month to be allowed for community engagement in the consultation;
- f. approves the draft terms of reference for the shadow COB as attached at appendix A; and
- g. makes representation to the relevant Cabinet Member, Councillor Stuart Wheeler, to support the approach for additional capital funding.

<u>Reasons</u> – As set out in the report, and to expedite the development of a Salisbury Community Campus.

**ACTION: SARAH WARD** 

#### 10. Update from Representatives

The Chairman referred to the written update from the police which had been tabled, and invited questions for Inspector David McMullin who was in attendance. There were no questions.

Su Thorpe, Leader of Salisbury City Council, gave an update on behalf of the City Council:

- The refurbishment of the Guildhall had now been completed, on time and around £30K under budget, and the City Council had now moved into its new offices. The first events (including weddings) were now underway, and the Area Board was invited to consider the Guildhall as a venue for a future meeting. (ACTION: JAMES HAZLEWOOD)
- The City Council's Mayor Making would be taking place on 21/22 May.
   As a reminder, there would be a number of road closures, and so people were advised to avoid driving into the city on those days.
- Following a successful funding application, the extension at Bemerton Neighbourhood Centre would now be going ahead, and work would be starting in the near future.
- The City Council had held its first parish meeting, as required as it was constituted as a parish council. About 100 people had attended which compared well with other similar sized parish councils.
- The Queen Elizabeth Gardens play area was now open and being well used. This project had been slightly late due to issues with the equipment.
- Plans were underway for Armed Forces Day on 26 June.
- More information on the city council's activities was available on its website: <a href="www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk">www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk</a>

There was no update from Laverstock and Ford Parish Council.

# 11. <u>Update from Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP)</u>

Debrah Biggs, Chairman of "Our Salisbury", the Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP), updated the meeting on the work of the partnership.

There had been a huge response to the Community Plan consultation, and a 70-page analysis of the responses had been produced. It had been identified that there had been a poor level of response from younger residents, specifically those under 30. The working group was seeking to address this, and one measure was that all those attending the AGM in late June (entitled "Bridging the Gap – working across the generations") were invited to bring a young person with them.

### 12. Your Local Issues

Marianna Dodd, Salisbury Community Area Manager, referred to the written update which had been tabled, commenting that 80 issues had been received to date. Of these, 66 had been closed, and 12 were in progress, with 1 new request. Detailed information on the issues could be viewed on the council's website <a href="https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/salisburyareaboard">www.wiltshire.gov.uk/salisburyareaboard</a> via the "Issue Tracking" link.

Marianna gave a detailed update on Issue 694, which referred to the need for provision of fully accessible toilets with changing facilities that meet the needs of

disabled people and their carers as well as tourists. It was noted that a personal care room with adult changing facilities would be in place at 61 Wyndham Road from 9 July 2011, Mondays-Fridays between 8.30am and 4.30pm. In addition, subject to the approval for the Campus proposal, it was planned to provide full personal care facilities as part of the campus development.

## 13. Community Area Grants

The Chairman invited a representative from each of the grant applicants to give a brief overview of their project to the Board. After each of the applicants had spoken the Chairman invited questions and discussion, then asked for a show of hands from those present to reflect public opinion. The Board members then voted on each application.

The Chairman also reported that the Performance Reward Grant, which was a county-wide grant pot funded by the Government, had been discontinued.

#### **Decision**

Bemerton Heath Interagency Group was awarded £1,835 to develop a series of intergenerational opportunities through five activities (kite making, IT, cookery, crochet and art workshops).

<u>Reason</u> – The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2011/12 and would allow these intergenerational workshops to proceed, developing community spirit.

## **Decision**

Ask Wiltshire was awarded £3,964 to run a series of four "Bus Stop" and "Making the Most of Teenagers" parenting groups in Salisbury.

<u>Reason</u> – The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2011/12 and would help to develop parenting skills.

In relation to the application from the Douglas Arter Centre Day Service, it was confirmed that there were two on-going applications for funding towards the project. Of these, one was outstanding, and the other was awaiting the outcome of the application to the Area Board.

#### Decision

Subject to the successful receipt of remaining match funding towards the project, the Douglas Arter Centre Day Service was awarded £1,850 towards a pilot community involvement project working with community groups and residents of the Douglas Arter Centre creating large Batik flags for public display in the Centre's gardens.

<u>Reason</u> – The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2011/12 and would support this project to the benefit of people with disabilities, helping to promote better understanding in the community of people with disabilities.

In relation to the application from Circular Arts, it was noted that the report recommended refusal as the application did not meet the Community Area Grants Criteria 2011/12. The organisation had previously received funding for the same project in 2010/11 and the Criteria sought to avoid the provision of year-on-year funding, as this encouraged financial dependency.

Alex Grant, speaking on behalf of Circular Arts, reported that work was on-going to form a partnership with Salisbury Cathedral, as part of a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. However, this would not proceed until 2012, and so alternative funding was required for the 2011 Lanterns Parade to proceed in the meantime.

It was suggested that Circular Arts should contact Wessex Community Action (WCA) regarding volunteers, as WCA maintained a database of volunteers in the area.

In approving the application, the Area Board made clear that the decision was based on the specific merits of this application, and did not set a precedent for future applications. All future applications for Community Area Grants (including any from Circular Arts) would be determined on their own individual merits and based on the criteria in force at the time.

## **Decision**

Circular Arts was awarded £5,000 to run a city community involvement multi-workshop project leading to a large Christmas parade.

Reason – The application did not meet the Community Area Grants Criteria 2011/12 in that the organisation had been previously funded by Wiltshire Council, and had received funding from Wiltshire Council for the same project. However, the Area Board considered that an exception to the criteria was justified in this case (as permitted within the criteria) due to the wider community benefit which would be realised by the hugely successful, well-established, and well-supported project working with over 20 minority groups from the city, culminating in a well-attended and popular festive event.

**ACTION: MARIANNA DODD** 

## 14. <u>Future Meeting Dates, Evaluation and Close</u>

Those present were invited to give their views on the meeting via the electronic voting handsets.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and noted that the next meeting of the Salisbury Area Board would be held on Thursday 14 July 2011, 7pm at Salisbury Methodist Church.

#### Appendix A - Families roundtable feedback (Item 8c)



# Salisbury Area Board - 12 May 2011

## Feedback from roundtable discussion on Families (agenda item 8)

## Question 1 – What are the main challenges for families?

- Balancing the books financial constraints
- Making relationships work
- · Insufficient time given to children within the family unit
- Impact of benefit cuts
- Maintenance of employment impact on families of redundancy
- Cycle of deprivation
- Broken relationships leading to child poverty
- Where are the opportunities to learn about maintaining a relationship? Perhaps explore.
- Financial pressures
- Financial stability / lack of debt
- Housing improvements / live in area to be proud of and want to live in
- Community support
- Stable relationships
- · Parenting skills / education
- Take responsibility
- Transport to/from school and activities
- Entertainment / activities for young people
- Family-friendly working hours
- Avoiding poverty employment / training for young people
- Lack of transport
- Lack of appropriate activities
- External influences on children and youth (i.e. television soap operas)
- Growing housing estates that lack youth parks and facilities, community centres
- Lack of work
- Lack on income
- Pressure to conform e.g. having latest gadgets etc
- Encouraging aspirations which are achievable.

# Question 2 – How can I, or my organisation, work with the Children's Centres and/or Explore to help families overcome these challenges?

- Health every first time mother should have ante-natal contact to help prepare for parenting
- Explore access to all secondary schools to develop relationship education for teenagers, as the anticipate their own future relationships
- Mothers' Union can offer facilitators (fully trained and accredited) for parenting groups and next year we hope to introduce "virtual" babies into local secondary schools. We already run toddler groups (4) locally
- School governors to support organisations like explore.
- Looking to link projects and initiatives to outcomes for children
- Tenants identifying own problems
- · Community plans lead to funding
- Teach respect between parties
- Couples visiting families
- Mentoring / workshops (interactive) utilising older people as tutors / mentors.
- Discussions to include mixed generation groups could be educational and could be entertaining.
- Provide creative arts workshops to include family members of all ages at the same session. Intergenerational mixing free workshops to be as inclusive as possible.
- Projects for young people
- Volunteering for young people suitable opportunities