

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** TIDWORTH AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall, Collingbourne Ducis, SN8 3UH  
**Date:** Monday 18 January 2010  
**Start Time:** 7.00pm  
**Finish Time:** 8.55pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Chris Williams (Chairman), Mark Connolly (Vice Chairman), Charles Howard

Lionel Grundy (Cabinet Member for Children's Services)

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Alistair Cunningham – Service Director, Economy and Enterprise

Val Powley – Tidworth Community Area Manager

James Hazlewood – Senior Democratic Services Officer

### **Parish Councillors**

Tidworth Town Council – Humph Jones, Steve Dagger, Janet White (Clerk)

Ludgershall Town Council – Tony Pickernell, Owen White, (Janet White (Clerk))

Chute Parish Council – David Brown

Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council – Mike Cox (Chairman), Graham Chandler

Collingbourne Kingston – Mike Holt, A Saunders

Enford Parish Council – Stan Bagwell, Ken Monk

Everleigh Parish Council – D Bottomley

Fittleton Parish Council – John Cherrett

Netheravon Parish Council – David Burke (Chairman), Geoff Dyer, David Thatcher

(Savernake Parish Council – J Davies)

**Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Martyn Sweett

Wiltshire Fire and Rescue – Mike Matthews

Tidworth Community Area Partnership (TCAP) – Colonel Paddy Tabor

Tidworth and District Chamber of Commerce – David Wildman

MOD – David Marks

Castledown Radio – Baz Reilly

**Members of Public in Attendance: 16**

**Total in attendance: 40**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
1.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introduction</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.</p> <p>The Chairman expressed thanks to Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council for allowing the use of the Village Hall for the meeting, and for providing the refreshments.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies had been received from Ken Beard (Ludgershall Town Council).</p>	
3.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>No Declarations of Interest were made.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>In relation to Item 5 on the minutes of the previous meeting, relating to the Speed Limit Review, the Chairman commented that no presentation would be coming to the Area Board. However, Parish and Town Councils were encouraged to engage with the review by responding to the consultation process.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>	
5.	<p><u>Update on issues raised</u></p> <p>Val Powley, Tidworth Community Area Manager, explained that several issues had been raised since the last meeting. Some of these had been closed, including one relating to ambulance response times.</p> <p>The Chairman encouraged those present to use the Issues system to raise concerns when other avenues had not been successful.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Speedwatch – Prioritisation of sites</u></p> <p>Val Powley reported that several issues had been raised which related to perceived speeding problems. Those which had been assessed for prioritisation were listed on pages 13-15 of the agenda, along with comments and priority ratings from the Police and Highways.</p>	

	<p>It was noted that some of the issues raised related to requests for speed limits to be reduced; this was a separate issue which could be raised through the Speed Limit Review. Val also commented that, in order for a site to be considered for Speedwatch, the issue had to relate to a specific location, rather than a whole stretch of road.</p> <p>Inspector Martyn Sweett added that Speedwatch was only part of the overall approach to combating speeding, and that alternative options may be more appropriate in certain circumstances. However, Speedwatch had been very successful in some cases as it was a local solution.</p> <p>The prioritisation of sites at pages 13-15 was noted.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The Chairman reported that Wiltshire Council and the Primary Care Trust (PCT) were jointly organising a Health Fair. This would be a drop-in event to publicise health services, including an opportunity to have your blood pressure taken and try out Wii interactive exercisers. The event would be followed by a workshop to help identify the priority health needs of the area, from the Tidworth Community Area statistics in the county-wide Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.</p> <p>The date for this event was yet to be confirmed, and would be advertised to Town and Parish Councils as soon as possible.</p>	Val Powley
8.	<p><u>A338 / A346 Working Group Report</u></p> <p>The Chairman invited Councillor Charles Howard to present the report which had been produced by a working group supported by the Tidworth Community Area Partnership, and comprising representatives from the Tidworth, Pewsey, Marlborough and Bourne Valley areas. The full version of the report was available on the Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council website.</p> <p>The report considered several factors relating to the A338 / A346 corridor from Salisbury to Swindon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volume of traffic – around 7,000 vehicles used the corridor daily, rising to 16,000 between Marlborough and the M4.</li> <li>• Priority locations – such as bridges and towns, where the road was particularly narrow.</li> <li>• Future increase in traffic – new Distribution Centres planned for Solstice Park and Andover Airfield were likely to increase Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) usage of the corridor.</li> <li>• Accidents – The corridor had a higher than average accident rate, with 205 accidents in five years, resulting in 343 casualties (including 8 fatalities and 75 serious injuries).</li> </ul>	

The report had concluded that the corridor was unsuitable for the volume of traffic it currently sustained, in particular the volume of LGV traffic. This was impacting on the local area in terms of noise pollution, vibrations and air quality.

The Working Group had identified two options to reduce the impact of the volume of LGV traffic:

- Bypasses – Previous attempts to secure bypasses along the corridor had been unsuccessful, and costs were likely to make this option unviable. In addition, bypasses would encourage increased use of the corridor in the long term, which would only exacerbate the existing environmental and social impact.
- “De-priming” – The A338/A346 corridor currently formed part of the National Primary Route Network. As such, it was not possible to impose weight/width/length or night-time restrictions on the roads. If the route were to be removed from the Primary Route Network, then such restrictions would be possible.

Councillor Howard advised that the Working Group’s preferred option was to apply to the Department for Transport for the A338/A346 corridor to be de-primed, and that the Area Board’s support for this approach was now sought. It was emphasised that further studies/consultation would be required prior to any restrictions being imposed.

The Chairman then invited comments and questions, and the following points were raised:

- Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council supported the proposals to apply for de-priming, commenting that this would have advantages for those who live on the route. It was considered that alternative routes were quicker and safer.
- Concern was expressed that reducing LGV traffic may allow more speeding on the corridor, as fewer lorries would be there to slow down the traffic.
- A representative of Bales Transport business commented that modern lorries were safer, quieter and less harmful to the environment. It was also noted that lorry drivers were restricted to 45 hour weeks, and that the detour around the A34 would take longer, in addition to higher fuel costs.
- Councillor Howard stated that the focus of the proposal was to reduce “through” LGV traffic, rather than lorries which need to make deliveries along the route.

Before putting the matter to the vote, the Chairman asked for a show of hands from those in attendance. 18 people supported the proposals for de-priming, and 6 people opposed the proposals.

	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>It was agreed that:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. The Tidworth Area Board notes the report and thanks the Working Group for its hard work; and</b></li> <li><b>2. The Tidworth Area Board supports the conclusion of the report and recommends to Cabinet that the Council apply to the Department for Transport for the de-priming of the A338/A346 corridor.</b></li> </ol>	<p><b>James Hazlewood / Cllr Williams</b></p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Update from Tidworth Community Area Partnership (TCAP)</u></p> <p>Colonel Paddy Tabor, Chairman of the Community Area Partnership, gave an update on the work of TCAP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership was currently looking for a Chairman of the Community Plan Co-ordinating Group.</li> <li>• The task of raising funding for the TCAP Co-ordinator was on-going.</li> <li>• Castledown Radio were currently in the process of having the radio licence transferred to them from the former Tidworth Development Trust (TDT). Once this transfer was complete, the position of the mast could be finalised, although it was hoped that it could remain in its current position. Baz Reilly thanked the volunteers who manned the radio station during the recent bad weather, and who helped update the Castledown Radio website with information regarding school closures.</li> <li>• The Housing and Built Environment Working Group had reported on the potential 600 extra civilian homes to be built in the North East Quadrant of Tidworth. It was hoped that this would provide a better balance of housing in the town.</li> <li>• David Wildman, Vice-Chairman of TCAP, reported on a recent meeting to discuss the establishment of a Tidworth Area Community Trust (TACT). This was required to fill the vacuum left by the former TDT, and would be based on similar aims and objectives. It was envisaged that TACT would be established as an Unincorporated Association, and would become a partner of the Area Board</li> <li>• The next meeting of TCAP would be on 19 March 2010.</li> </ul>	

10.	<p><u>Updates from Town and Parish Councils, the Police, the Army, NHS and other Partners</u></p> <p>The Area Board received updates from Partners and Parish representatives.</p> <p>Steve Dagger, Chairman of Tidworth Town Council, reported that a new Community Centre was planned. Reference was made to the Section 106 funding from Site 19 and the North East Quadrant.</p> <p>Stan Bagwell of Enford Parish Council referred to the surface of the A345, following the recent bad weather. It was noted that that Council had recently commenced a programme to address potholes, and that new sites could be reported directly to CLARENCE, the Council's highways reporting service, on 0800 232323, or via email: <a href="mailto:clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk">clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk</a> .</p> <p>David Brown of Chute Parish Council thanked Wiltshire Council for keeping the agreed roads clear during the recent snow, and also thanked the local farmer who had cleared a drift.</p> <p>Inspector Martyn Sweett from Wiltshire Police gave an update on policing in the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Bayliss had now been confirmed in the post of Beat Manager for the Ludgershall and Rural area.</li> <li>• Current priorities for the team were anti-social behaviour in Tidworth, and speeding in the rural area. New priorities would be identified in the near future.</li> <li>• The Bluez 'n' Zuz Youth Disco project was a continuing success, with 84 young people attending the previous event.</li> <li>• Overall, crime was down in the area, with falls in both violent crime and household burglary.</li> <li>• Some officers were now armed with Tasers – these should not be mistaken for firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Mike Matthews of Wiltshire Fire and Rescue referred to the recent chimney fires in the area, commenting that this was an effect of the recession as people tried to save money by not having chimneys swept. Janet White passed on thanks from a Tidworth resident whom the Fire and Rescue Service had helped during the recent snow, by taking her to hospital.</p> <p>Colonel Paddy Tabor from the MOD updated the meeting on recent and forthcoming battalion movements at the garrison. Overall, the number of troops stationed at Tidworth would increase, and this was likely to have an impact on the local community, particularly in relation to the property rental market, and local schools.</p>	
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<p>11.</p>	<p><u>Grant Funding</u></p> <p>a) <u>Community Grants</u></p> <p>Val Powley explained that the Tidworth Area Board had allocated £27,613 as Community Grants since April 2009. The five grants listed in the report totalled £6,724 which exceeded the remaining balance in the budget for 2009/10. As such, it would not be possible to grant all five applications in full.</p> <p>The Chairman invited a representative from each applicant to address the board on their applications and to respond to questions.</p> <p>In relation to the application from Kennet Friends, it was confirmed that only £700 of the costs listed related to the specific costs of the proposed courses, while the remainder was on-going revenue costs of running the organisation. The organisation already received revenue funding from Wiltshire Council towards its running costs, and so the Board was not able to contribute further to these costs. As such, the sum awarded was less than the £2,019 originally requested.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Kennet Friends was awarded £700 to run three courses in Ludgershall for people with physical and mental health difficulties.</b>  <b><i>Reason The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would support the project for this organisation.</i></b></p> <p>In relation to the application from Ludgershall Sports Football Club, it was confirmed that funding had also been sought from Sports England. However, Members still considered that there were alternative funding sources available to the club. For this reason, the sum awarded was less than the £2,500 originally requested.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Ludgershall Sports Football Club was awarded £2,000 to purchase grass cutting machinery.</b>  <b><i>Reason The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would support the on-going expansion of this local club.</i></b></p> <p>In relation to the application from Enford and Avon Valley Youth Club, it was noted that “voluntary labour”, as listed under project costs, related to skilled labour which was required for the construction, but at a lower than commercial rate.</p>	<p>Val Powley</p> <p>Val Powley</p>
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	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Enford and Avon Valley Youth Club was awarded £955 to purchase equipment to build storage facilities for the newly re-formed youth club in the new Enford Village Hall.</b>  <b><i>Reason The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would support the increased use of this club.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Tidworth Area Schools was awarded £500 to enable the Tidworth Community Area Awards ceremony to be held this year.</b>  <b><i>Reason The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would allow this community event to take place.</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>All Saints Netheravon PCC was awarded £750 to provide secure storage within the church.</b>  <b><i>Reason The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would facilitate greater public access to this Grade 2 listed building.</i></b></p> <p>b) <u>Performance Reward Grant Scheme</u></p> <p>Two bids had been submitted to this scheme from the Tidworth area, having received support from the Area Board. These related to toilets at Collingbourne Ducis Church, and repairs to the roof at Ludgershall Scouts Hall. Val Powley reported that these two bids had been deferred by the decision making panel for further information.</p> <p>It was noted that the deadline for the next tranche of Performance Reward Grant funding was 12 February 2010.</p>	<p>Val Powley</p> <p>Val Powley</p> <p>Val Powley</p>
12.	<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting, Evaluation and Close</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting was to be held on Monday 15 March 2010 at Enford Village Hall starting at 7pm with light refreshments available from 6.30pm.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and encouraged those present to complete evaluation forms.</p>	