

PARISH FORUM REPORT FOR MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD 29th MARCH 2012

1) Community Emergency Plan

The Forum is endeavouring over the next month to ensure that all Parishes submit their Plans to Nick Bate at Wiltshire Council.

2) Community Area Plan

The Forum will consider the draft Plan at its April meeting. Early indications are that the Plan should be subject to a longer period of final review and that it is not yet ready for a final review.

3) Reclaiming Villages for Traffic Initiative

Stage 1 of the Traffic Initiative is complete and we hope that this MAB report will constitute feedback for the purposes of measuring the effectiveness of the MAB Grant Award which funded it.

Hamilton Baillie Associates reviewed 19 villages, taking into account Traffic Issues Summaries submitted by Parishes on behalf of 18 of them. This work informed the seminar delivered on 13th March at Kennet Valley Hall and provides a base of knowledge and strategic ideas from which to launch Stage 2 of the Traffic Initiative.

The Seminar was attended by over 90 people. 50% of those present signed in on behalf of Parish Councils and the expected 11 Parish Councils all attended and were represented by their Chairs (in most cases) or their lead on traffic issues. 7 Parish Councils re-affirmed their commitment to the Traffic Initiative on the night with 4 wishing to seek final approval from their Councils. It is likely that 18 villages will fully participate in Stages 2 and 3.

4) Great Stones Way

There is a degree of concern that the GSW Scoping Committee for the EIS, the EIS itself and the Consultative Group (if different) have not included community representation as requested and supported at the MAB meeting on June 21st 2011. This representation was to be in the form of a Parish Forum sub-group led by Avebury.

5) Asset Register

The Parish Council Asset & Resources Register has been completed and has been contributed to by 10 Parish Councils. This register allows individual Parish Councils to seek expertise, resources or experience from other Parishes.

6) Jubilee / Olympic Celebrations

The cross-fertilisation of ideas for celebrations have stimulated many Parish Councils to hold events and to apply for the MAB grants and has also contributed to the quality of prospective events.

7) New Issues

The following issues were raised at the Parish Forum meeting of 17th January 2012 and are now being addressed by the Forum

- Impacts of Marlborough congestion on surrounding villages and roads
- Affordable Housing – a presentation was delivered by the Chair of the Board of The National Land Trust which provided Parishes with options to consider when determining how new affordable housing within villages can be directed at existing local residents in need. A further presentation by The Wiltshire Community Land Trust is being organised.
- Youth Projects