



### ***Parish Council Forum Update for Devizes Area Board May 2012***

The Parish Council Forum met on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Cllr Paula Winchcombe was elected as Chairman for the coming year, and Cllr Mervyn Woods as Vice Chairman. It was agreed that the Parish Council Forum would be represented at DCAP meetings by a member from each of Market Lavington, Potterne and Roundway parishes. Other parishes are invited to nominate members for the remaining three places. A representative of the Parish Council Forum is also invited to sit on the Community Area Traffic Group.

Alan Truscott gave a presentation on the wide-ranging work of Community First, describing current projects as well as imminent new initiatives. It was agreed that the knowledge and expertise of Community First should be accessed in fulfilling parish and DCAP priorities. This includes advice on funding and project management.

Cllr Rick Rowland had written to each of the parishes, inviting them to work alongside the DCAP Housing group, identifying issues relating to affordable housing in rural areas, in order to compile a directory of advice and creative ideas. Parishes yet to reply are encouraged to do so.

Parishes are encouraged to consider introducing outdoor gym equipment or trim trails etc. to encourage exercise. The DCAP Health & Wellbeing group is seeking to partner with parishes in fulfilling this aim specified in the Community Area Plan. Funding sources are available.

Parishes are invited to request themes / speakers for future meetings, and to offer venues for meetings. It would be helpful if parishes could advise the DCAP Administrator ([admin@dcap.org.uk](mailto:admin@dcap.org.uk)) of dates of Parish Council meetings for the coming months, in order that Parish Council Forum meeting dates can be arranged to maximise attendance.

The next meeting of the Parish Council Forum will take place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 6.30pm (venue to be confirmed)