

**Trowbridge Community Area Future
Trowbridge Civic Centre
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We're making a difference

Report to Trowbridge Area Board 23rd May 2013.

Steering Group Update:

TCAF have submitted the workplan and budget for 2013/14 to the Area Board and await approval.

The Core Strategy will be available for public consultation again from 7th May and will be open until June.

Our next Steering Group meeting is to be held on April 29th at 4pm.

Neighbourhood Partnership

1. This group supported by Doug Ross held an event in The Shires on 15th & 16th March to share information and give support to the community on the Welfare Reform. A further event will be organised in the autumn and TCAF are working with Wiltshire Money in order that we support our community in the best way throughout the welfare changes.
2. The housing agenda is to be supported through the neighbourhood partnerships. Any strategic developments will be discussed and managed outside of the group and involving the relevant TCAF members.
3. The Tasking Group will identify and key areas of work that will be taken on as the need arises in place of the Safer Trowbridge group.

BA14 Culture

1. Trowbridge Arts enjoyed success with their first event, Le Voyageur Debout – Just Good Friends performance held in the Atrium at County Hall on 11th April.
2. TCAF are represented on the Trowbridge Arts Festival group and plans for this year's festival are well underway.

Economy and Transport

1. TCAF continue to attend the Transforming Trowbridge meetings. The next draft of the Masterplan is due to be published for community consultation in the coming weeks.
2. Trowbridge County Town Initiative meetings are also attended and the group are looking at developing a Trowbridge Communication Strategy taking into consideration the recent Hidden Britain Report as well as the Action for Market Towns (AMT) survey.

Health & Social Care

This group is met on 13th March to look at the direction of the group and how best to move forward. It was agreed that the group will hold fewer formal meetings allowing officer time to be spent on live projects, the first of which will link in with the Children's Society Big Conversation project.

Collaborative Schools

1. Youth Parliament is leading on a campaign on animal welfare, the schools have been asked to design pet poster. TCAF were asked to assist in the judging of the competition on 17th April where pupils from St John's, Hilperton, Staverton and the Grove were amongst the winners of the most outstanding design.
2. This year's Apple Day will be held on October 12th
3. Big Lunch a legacy from Olympics will be held on Sunday June 2nd and will be hosted at The Mead

TCAF continues to attend the CoB and is preparing to be involved in the next phase of consultation which will take place over May and June to consult about the working proposal of the CoB.

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Area Board Revised Grant Guidelines

We, in the Trowbridge Community Area Future are very grateful that in a difficult financial situation Wiltshire council has been able to find funding to continue the provision of grants. We also understand why because of the lack of revenue funding this is for capital items only. However we do have real concerns about the impact that this will have.

- The definition of what is and is not a capital item is complicated and does not appear entirely consistent.
- Providing things does not develop capacity nor does it necessarily lead to actions.
- It will be easier for larger organisations to put together bids for capital items.
- It is much harder to demonstrate the impact of a capital item as opposed to a project

We are worried that groups who have bid in the past especially small groups will no longer feel able to bid. We would, therefore, ask that the Board monitors the number and nature of bids it receives and compares them with those submitted in previous years.