

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Winterslow Village Hall, Middleton Rd, Winterslow SP5 1PQ  
**Date:** 31 July 2014  
**Start Time:** 7.00 pm  
**Finish Time:** 8.51 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

Lisa Moore (Democratic Services Officer), Tel: 01722 434560

or (e-mail) [lisa.moore@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.moore@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman), Cllr Christopher Devine (Vice-Chair),  
Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Leo Randall

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Stephen Harris – Community Area Manager  
Kirsty Butcher – Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Tony Nye – Community Youth Officer  
Tracy Myers – Community Coordinator, Local Highways

### **Town and Parish Councillors**

Alderbury Parish Council – E Hartford, A McGowan  
Downton Parish Council – R Yeates, D Mace, S Lacey  
Firsdown Parish Council – M Bishop, H Edgeley, B Edgeley  
Grimstead Parish Council – V Ward, A Ferguson  
Landford Parish Council – J Martin  
Laverstock and Ford Parish Council – J Champion  
Odstock Parish Council – R Parsons  
Redlynch Parish Council- J Blocksidge, D Baker-Beale, D Trick  
West Dean Parish Council – H Urquhart  
Whiteparish Parish Council - P Jones  
Winterslow Parish Council – J Tier

**Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector D Minty, PC M Holland

BBLP – R Reid

PCC – C Barker

**Total in attendance: 47**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Southern Wiltshire Area Board.</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:</p> <p>Tracy Carter, Associate Director – Environment and Waste  Tom Bray – Community Area Manager  Lisa Moore – Democratic Services Officer</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 29 May 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>Cllr Devine reported that he had been in touch with the project manager to discuss the issues with the BT Exchange in West Dean. Further information would be provided to the Area Board and West Dean Parish Council when known.</p>
4	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were none.</p>
5	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p><b>Ann Ireland</b>  The Chairman had been saddened by the sudden death of Ann Ireland from Downton, and on behalf of the Area Board sent condolences to her family and friends. Ann had been a consistent supporter of the Area Board.</p> <p>Downton Parish Council paid tribute to her tireless work for her local community, noting she would be very much missed.</p> <p><b>Health Fair</b>  The October Area Board had been given over to a Health Fair, and would now be held on Monday 13 October at Downton School. More information would be circulated by email when known.</p>

	<p><b>Area Board – the way forward</b> The Chairman had set up a meeting with members to discuss the report and recommendations of the recent Area Board review which had been presented to Cabinet on Tuesday 22 April. He invited the audience to email him with any suggestions, views or comments.</p> <p><b>Community Foundation</b> The Community Foundation is able to offer up to £3000 for community organisations for revenue funding. More information can be found on their website:-</p> <p><a href="#">Helping local donors to help their community - Community Foundation for Wiltshire and Swindon</a></p> <p><b>WW1 Commemoration Event</b> The Chairman had attended a World War I commemoration event was held at the Tidworth Military Cemetery on Thursday 30 July 2014. It had been a moving event with a wall of commemoration where 10,000 crosses were placed in remembrance of Wiltshire soldiers.</p>
6	<p><u>Current Consultations</u></p> <p>The Board noted the information on the current consultations online, which was available by following the links in the agenda.</p> <p>The Chairman drew particular attention to consultations on open spaces study, the big drink debate, the leisure survey and kerbside garden waste collections. Attention was drawn to the risk of fly tipping should kerbside garden waste collections be stopped.</p> <p><a href="#">Consultations   Wiltshire Council</a></p>
7	<p><u>Report on issues facing the community as a whole</u></p> <p><b>Police – Inspector David Minty</b> Sergeant David Lenane had been replaced by Sergeant Dave Whitby.</p> <p>The move to Bourne Hill had gone smoothly and it was hoped that the benefits of being directly located with others, like anti-social behaviour officers and licensing officers would have a real impact.</p> <p>The lack of a custody unit in Salisbury was short term and it was hoped a new unit would be up and running in 18 months.</p> <p>Speeding through the villages was highlighted, and PC Matt Holland or PC Henry Clissold were happy to visit affected parishes, to work with existing speedwatch teams or to look at what other activities could address this issue.</p>

2 arrests had been made in Coombe Bisset for stealing diesel.

Questions and comments were then received, these included:

- How can people be stopped from breaking into playing fields, even when gates are padlocked?  
Answer: Arrest can only be made if who, when and where is known. Often if there are multiple people on site this is difficult to prove. The land owners need to take the lead – if it is council-owned land there is a set procedure to follow.

### **Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service – Cllr Devine, Chairman of the Wiltshire Fire Authority**

Cllr Devine drew attention to the ongoing public consultation running until 21 October 2014 which detailed three options for the fire and rescue service to save money in the face of government grant cut backs.

Details of the three options were:

1. Staying as they are but with Wiltshire Council and/or Swindon Borough Council running the back office, giving savings of £0.8million;
2. Staying as they are but with Wiltshire Council or Swindon Borough Council running the back office and sharing some functions with Dorset Fire and Rescue Service; or
3. Merging with Dorset Fire and Rescue Service, keeping stations and retained fire-fighters and reducing the overall number of senior officers. Although this would give savings of £5million, the deficit resulting from the merger would be £7.9million meaning there would still be a deficit.

The Fire Authority would make the final decision in November, and all were encouraged to put their views forward.

Any questions regarding the consultation should be directed to Cllr Devine: [christopher.devine@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.devine@wiltshire.gov.uk) or 01722 712464.

### **Changes to the Electoral Registration System**

The Board noted the information seen on page 17 of the agenda.

### **Community Opportunities Board (COB)**

Work was underway on developing a consultation for communities, service providers and the voluntary sector. Support was still needed for the group and anyone interested should contact Cllr Britton: [richard.britton@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:richard.britton@wiltshire.gov.uk) or 01980 610111.

### **Online Issues System**

	<p>The issues report seen at page 19 of the agenda was noted. Any concerns should be raised with Stephen Harris in Tom Bray's absence, or with the Chairman.</p>
8	<p><u>Our Theme: Supporting Vulnerable People</u></p> <p>Mr Brian Warwick, Chairman of the South West Seniors Network and Wiltshire Council's Champion for Older People, gave a presentation on Seniors Forums.</p> <p>There are 63 forums in the south west area with a total membership of 58,000. The forums were run by older people for older people. They represented older people, were able to influence the people making decisions and helped older people make more informed choices. Chairs of the regional forums met quarterly with crown ministers, which provided the chance to have a real impact on government policies.</p> <p>Mr Warwick noted the challenges faced by vulnerable people in a rural location and described current work being undertaken by forums around the development of local neighbourhood car services, and workshops where skills were passed on to the young. The view of senior citizens and pensioners was also represented at policy level, for example when discussing housing for the next 10 years they worked with officers, groups and social housing providers to overcome social isolation.</p> <p>In response to questions Mr Warwick confirmed that they not only spoke to providers of housing but were engaged with the whole spectrum, including architects and the financial sector. There was little local activity in the area at present, and Mr Warwick would like to develop local groups in conjunction with the Area Board.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mr Warwick for his presentation.</p>
9	<p><u>Our Theme: The new model for developing Youth Activities</u></p> <p>Tony Nye, the Community Youth Officer gave an update on the future provision of youth services following the Cabinet decision to change to a community-led model.</p> <p>The new model was a youth service that helps others to deliver youth work. The leisure credits programme would continue to be delivered over the coming few months. Tony would support those wanting to set up and run youth provision. A Local Youth Network (LYN) would be involved in the decision making process, continuing young people's role in the heart of decision making.</p> <p>In addition to area board grant funding there was an amount of money for activities for young people, which could be revenue rather than capital spend.</p>

	<p>From 1 October 2014 the council would no longer be providing support to employ youth workers and identification of a county-wide organisation to provide this was in process.</p> <p>Tony introduced Courtney Pickering, who addressed the Board as a newly elected member of the UK Youth Parliament and a member of the Wiltshire Assembly of Youth (WAY). Courtney explained that she had the opportunity to be involved in the democratic process at a national level, and subjects they were examining were transport, bullying, job opportunities and teenage socialisation. Courtney could be contacted via email – <a href="mailto:courtenyanep@hotmail.co.uk">courtenyanep@hotmail.co.uk</a></p> <p>In response to questions Tony confirmed that he was still in charge of the Urbie Bus but this would not be delivered from 1 October 2014. Redlynch had been removed from the Urbie Bus round as the young people there had not engaged. The need to get the LYN set up and running successfully was highlighted, and it was hoped that local professionals and the voluntary sector would be able to make facilities and resources available. If a community wanted to pay for a youth worker they could bid for a grant from the area board.</p> <p>The revenue grant funding could be to assist a new group or support an existing one. Applications for grants would be through the area board application process and further details would be circulated once available.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Tony and Courtney for their reports.</p>
10	<p><u>Our Theme: Footpath project update</u></p> <p>Cllr Randall provided an update on the footpath project, noting that the programme to replace stiles with kissing gates was ongoing. This year had been a good year for growth meaning some paths were impassable, and as much help as possible was needed to tackle this.</p> <p>Dates would be set for specific parishes and it was hoped that parishes would put up notices asking for volunteers to set aside the day. It was hoped that local groups would be set up to do clearance work.</p> <p>Circular Walks were well underway with Downton almost complete. Any suggestions for walks should be emailed to Cllr Randall – <a href="mailto:leo.randall@wiltshire.gov.uk">leo.randall@wiltshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>In response to questions Cllr Randall confirmed that it was legal for volunteers to take their own secateurs and cut when walking. The idea of weekend working parties was sensible and Cllr Randall would feed this back into the planning process.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Cllr Randall for his update.</p>

11	<p><u>Our Theme: Parish Council Collaboration</u></p> <p>The Board noted the update attached to the agenda which detailed the way forward for preliminary discussions on “inter-parish collaboration”. A meeting of Clerks was to be convened and the Grimstead Chairman was to investigate the possibility of a corresponding Chairs’ Forum.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that any recommendations which emerged from these meetings would be addressed to parish councils for their consideration. He hoped that real opportunities for inter-parish collaboration would be possible.</p>						
12	<p><u>Community Asset Transfer: Firsdowm Play Area</u></p> <p>The Board considered an application submitted by Firsdowm Parish Council for the transfer of the Firs Road play area, Firsdowm.</p> <p>Mr Brian Edgeley, Firsdowm Parish Council confirmed that no rent had been paid since 2009 as the lease had not been renewed. The maintenance of the site had been done by the parish council for a number of years and legal matters were still being discussed.</p> <p>Cllr Devine, the local member fully supported the application explaining that it was a major asset to the village and should be in the parish council’s care.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Southern Wiltshire Area Board agreed to support the transfer of the Firs Road play area, Firsdowm.</b></p>						
13	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG) schemes</u></p> <p>The Board considered the recommendations for funding, made by the Community Area Transport Group, as detailed in the report attached to the agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Southern Area Board agreed to release £5500 funding from the CATG budget for 2014/15, to the following projects:</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 1682 1493 2000"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="352 1682 963 1742">Scheme</th> <th data-bbox="963 1682 1493 1742">Recommendation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1742 963 1865">Medieval Bridge to Nursing home footpath.</td> <td data-bbox="963 1742 1493 1865">CATG allocated <b>£5k</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1865 963 2000">New footway at C12 after where CATG funded small piece of footway in 2012</td> <td data-bbox="963 1865 1493 2000">Carry out a trial hole to inspect the complexity of the project - <b>£500</b>. From there we will see how we tackle the issue.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Scheme	Recommendation	Medieval Bridge to Nursing home footpath.	CATG allocated <b>£5k</b>	New footway at C12 after where CATG funded small piece of footway in 2012	Carry out a trial hole to inspect the complexity of the project - <b>£500</b> . From there we will see how we tackle the issue.
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14	<p><u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>The Board considered 5 applications to the Community Area Grants Scheme for 2014/15, as detailed in the grants papers attached to the agenda. The application relating to Nunton Community Orchard had been deferred to the next meeting as Odstock Parish Council were unable to attend. The Chairman invited applicants to speak in support of their projects. Following discussion, the Board voted on each application in turn.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Winterslow Parish Council was awarded £5000 towards the recreation ground play trails.</b>  <b><i>Reason</i></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2014/15</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Redlynch Playing Field Association was awarded £1000 towards Sports Club storage for field maintenance and sporting equipment.</b>  <b><i>Reason</i></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2014/15</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Winterslow Short Mat Bowls Club was awarded £826 towards a replacement short mat bowls carpet.</b>  <b><i>Reason</i></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2014/15</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Lover Green Association was awarded £920 towards purchasing 2 gates and two benches for Lover Green.</b>  <b><i>Reason</i></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2014/15</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Landford Village Hall was awarded £4701 towards the resurfacing of the village hall car park, subject to planning permission being granted, if required. If this was not granted the Area Board could withdraw the funding.</b>  <b><i>Reason</i></b>  <b><i>The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2014/15</i></b></p>
15	<p><u>Close</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.</p>