

Bradford on Avon  
Community Area Board

Update

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010

# Since the last meeting ....

- The first meeting has taken place of the British Waterways Local Mooring Strategy Stakeholders Group. This group will be looking at how they can develop a joint mooring strategy for the Kennet and Avon Canal.
- The Footbridge Stakeholder group have met twice to discuss the landing sites for the footbridge and possible alternative designs.
- Helen Lines from Community first attended Holt Parish Council to provide an update on the good neighbours project
- A meeting of the grants advisory panel took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. A report from the group is included in the agenda papers.
- The friends of Barton Farm play area group have started consulting on plans for the Barton Farm play area.
- The community area partnership has started meeting with community groups across the community area to discuss how they might like to be involved in a project looking at how different individuals and groups in the community area are being affected by the current economic climate.
- A meeting has taken place with emergency planners and community representatives to discuss how communities can prepare for emergency situations.

# Youth Funding

## **At the March area board meeting:**

Kevin Sweeney from the Wiltshire Council Youth Development Service presented proposals to introduce a new staffing formula to make the funding of youth services across the county fairer. The new formula allocates funding according to numbers of young people, levels of deprivation and population density.

The Bradford on Avon Community Area has lost 6 hours of youth work a week under the new funding arrangements. At the area board, Holt Parish Council expressed concerns that they were going to suffer an unfair cut in services in comparison to the rest of the community area. The Youth Service has asked Holt Parish Council if it would consider funding one of the two youth workers that run the Wednesday Youth Club in Holt. Wiltshire Council would continue to fund one youth worker for 3 hours a week.

## **What happened next:**

A senior representative from the youth service met with representatives from Holt Parish Council on the 19th April to discuss their concerns. Kevin Sweeney has written to Holt Parish Council following this meeting to confirm the Wiltshire Council position. Holt Parish Council have met and responded.

An additional £4,711 has been made available to the Bradford on Avon Area Board to go towards youth activities. No decisions have been taken as yet on how this money should be allocated.

## **Since the May meeting:**

Discussions are continuing to see if it possible to identify alternative funding sources or other options.

Dawn Froggatt, the Bradford on Avon Youth Worker for the past six years has now left Wiltshire Council. Kath Brownlee is the new Youth Development Coordinator for the Bradford on Avon Area.

# Footbridge Review Process

## **At the May Area Board meeting:**

The Town Council requested support from the area board to undertake a stakeholder review process.

A question was also raised about what would now happen to the performance reward bid submitted by the Town Council for £100,000 to go towards the cost of the bridge which had previously been put forward by the area board.

## **What happened next:**

An initial meeting took place on 4th June with one representative from Bradford Bridge Concern, Back the Bridge, Bradford on Avon Town Council and Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust. This meeting was facilitated by Jim Lynch. It was decided that Dominic Murphy of Creating Excellence in Bristol should lead the stakeholder process. The community area manager supplied administrative support for this meeting.

A further meeting was held on the 30th June with representatives from Linden Homes at which possibilities for different siting positions were discussed.

The core stakeholder group also met on the 20<sup>th</sup> July & the 2<sup>nd</sup> September to talk about the landing sites and alternative designs.

The bid made by the Town Council for a performance reward grant has been withdrawn until the stakeholder review process is completed.

If you would like copies of the minutes from any of the meetings of the stakeholder group, please contact the Community Area Manager.

# Speeding

## So far:

Metro counts (which record the number and speed of vehicles over a 7 day period in a specific location) have been requested for:

1. Lower Westwood
2. Upper Westwood
3. B3105/B3107 junction in Staverton
4. Midford Lane in Limply Stoke
5. Christchurch Road
6. Ashley Road
7. B3108 Winsley Road

## Results so far:

In Lower Westwood, the average speed of cars was 24.1 mph. 9.7% of vehicles were recorded to be travelling over the speed limit.

In Upper Westwood, the average speed of cars was 17.7mph. 3.9% of vehicles were recorded to be travelling over the speed limit.

At the B3105/ B3107 junction in Staverton it was recorded that the average speed of cars was 42.2mph. 1.9% of vehicles were recorded to be travelling over the speed limit.

On Midford Lane, the average speed of cars was 26.7mph in one location and 27.3 mph in another location. 0% vehicles were recorded to be travelling over the speed limit.

The results from Christchurch Road, Ashley Road and the B3108 are still forthcoming.

# Historic Core Zone

## **At the July 2009 Area Board:**

It was agreed that Wiltshire Council should commission consultants to develop initial plans for a historic core zone in Bradford on Avon.

## **What happened next:**

Colin Buchanan Consultants were appointed to carry out this work. They have run two stakeholder workshops with representatives from local organisations, the first to talk about the issues experienced by local people in terms of traffic intimidation and the second to look at a variety of ways in which these problems could be resolved.

Colin Buchanan submitted their initial plans to the Council in June. These plans were presented at a Priority for People public meeting on the 23rd June. They then went to the Town Council for consideration.

## **At the July 2010 Area Board:**

Wiltshire Councillors agreed to approve the initial plans for the Historic Core Zone. More detailed design plans will be developed once funding becomes available.

# British Waterways' Local Mooring Strategy Consultation

## **At the January area board meeting:**

Representatives from the Boater Community presented a number of concerns they had regarding the Local Mooring Strategy proposed by British Waterways.

It was agreed that the members would write formally to Cllr Toby Sturgis and British Waterways asking them to attend a meeting to discuss the issues raised by the boater community.

## **What happened next:**

Letters were sent to Cllr Sturgis and British Waterways.

A meeting took place with local elected members, British Waterways, Wiltshire council officers and members of the Boater Community on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010.

It was agreed that British Waterways would put together a more comprehensive set of data to demonstrate levels of usage of the waterways and that they would come back to the area board once they had collated the results of the national consultation. More than 100 people attended a consultation event held in partnership between the Area Boards Team and British Waterways. British Waterways announced plans to set up an 'inquiry panel' to gather evidence from different parties on how they feel local moorings should be managed. Two round table discussions looked at what people thought of the inquiry panel idea and how the area board could be used to help facilitate discussions about the use of the canal.

## **Current situation:**

An initial meeting took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> August to discuss how plans for a local mooring strategy could be developed. At the initial meeting, it was agreed that the group of stakeholders would try to work together to produce one local mooring strategy to put to the enquiry panel for discussion.

It is still being decided who will sit on the stakeholder group.

# Barton Farm Play Area

## So far ..

An issue was raised with the area board about the quality of the Play equipment at the Barton Farm Play Area. A basket swing had to be removed from the site as it encouraged anti- social behaviour.

Current funding for new play equipment has already been allocated to play areas in Monkton Farleigh, Staverton and Poulton.

A community group has formed to consult on what people think of the current play area and to look at whether the equipment could be improved with external funding.

The Friends of Barton Farm Play Area Group asked people to fill in questionnaires about what they would like to see in the play area and had over 70 responses.

## Next Steps:

Members of the 'Friends of Barton Farm Play Area Group' will present their initial plans at the September meeting and ask for feedback.

The plans will also be on display at the library for two weeks from 20<sup>th</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October.



# South Wraxall Cycle Path

## **So far ...**

Several South Wraxall Residents initiated a project to look at the possibility of installing a safe cycling link from South Wraxall into Bradford on Avon.

Two residents met with a transport officer and the community area manager on the 15<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the best way forward.

South Wraxall Parish Council is in support of the scheme.

Following this meeting, the group have been put in contact with the Countryside Access Development Officer. They are currently liaising with Sustrans and Wiltshire Council over possible routes for the cycling link and potential sources of funding.

## **What happened next:**

The group have now visited the proposed site with Sustrans and have received a quote from a contractor for simply improving the surface of the existing route, which is already either covered in tarmac or well compacted.

The group have now been successful in obtaining funding for the project.

# Holt Footpath

## **At the January area board meeting:**

Martin Moyes from Holt Parish Council gave a presentation on a Parish Council project to build a footpath project on the Holt recreation ground.

## **What happened next:**

85 questionnaires have been distributed to households in Holt thought to be the most affected by the proposed new footpath. The deadline for responses was at the end of February.

A public forum was held in Holt on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April to discuss the comments raised in the response to the questionnaire.

Following this the Parish Council Transport Committee agreed to progress the scheme and to start looking at potential exit points onto Ground Corner.

A site visit took place with a highways engineer and public rights of way officer from Wiltshire Council to discuss some of the technical aspects of the scheme.

Progress to date and the next steps are to be discussed at a future Holt Parish Council Transport Committee meeting.

# Holt Good Neighbours

## **So far ...**

Holt has been selected as a proposed location for a Good Neighbours Scheme in which local people are invited to volunteer to become a trusted community member and resource whilst supported by a paid co-ordinator .

The scheme aims to help older, more socially isolated individuals feel more secure and to have a better quality of life.

Volunteers visit people at home to provide high quality information and enable access to a wide range of resources. They also network widely with parish councillors, transport providers, faith groups, social groups, police and health and social care providers to become known in their community.

The good neighbours scheme will eventually be rolled out across Wiltshire. Holt has been identified as a potential location for one of the first schemes.

## **Next steps:**

Helen Lines from Community First attended the Holt Parish Council meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> August to provide more information about the scheme and to advise the Parish Council that she is currently recruiting a co-ordinator to develop the scheme in Holt.

# Limpley Stoke Traffic Intimidation

## **At the January area board meeting:**

A grant of £5,000 was awarded to Limpley Stoke Parish Council to put towards measures to reduce traffic intimidation. The issue of traffic intimidation in Limpley Stoke was first raised at an Area Board in July 2009.

## **What happened next:**

A workshop took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> March. More than 70 local residents attended to give their thoughts on traffic intimidation.

Highways Officer David Bullock gave interim feedback to the Parish Council at on 6<sup>th</sup> April.

Highways Officer David Bullock confirmed that the parish of Limpley Stoke was to be formally invited to partake in the trials.

## **Current situation:**

Limpley Stoke has accepted the invitation to partake in the 20mph trials and the parish council are currently in discussions with Wiltshire Council Highways Officers about plans for the scheme.

# Westwood Traffic Intimidation

## So far...

Westwood Parish Council wrote to the Council in February requesting a 'road safety survey' examining the benefit of introducing a 20mph speed limit amongst other potential measures.

A metro count has taken place in two locations in Westwood as an initial step to examine traffic conditions. The results of these showed average speeds of 24.1 mph for Lower Westwood Road and 17.7mph for Upper Westwood Road (the equipment at this location was vandalised and only 180 cars were recorded).

It was announced at the area board on the 19<sup>th</sup> May that Westwood Parish Council would formally be invited to take part in the 20mph trials.

## Next steps:

Westwood Parish Council formally agreed to accept the invitation to partake in the 20mph trial on the 5<sup>th</sup> July.

They will now work with Wiltshire Council Highways Officers to develop the scheme.

# Waste and Recycling Strategy

## **At the January area board meeting:**

Toby Sturgis presented on current waste and recycling policy and highlighted that a consultation was going to take place put forward a number of options for the refuse collection and recycling services which currently differ from area to area across the county.

## **What happened next:**

The consultation on the Waste and Recycling strategy was postponed until after the general election.

Officers from this service will be available before the area board on the 21st July to questions on how you can have your say during the consultation.

## **Current situation:**

The consultation on Waste and Recycling closed on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

All comments and completed questionnaires received before 20 August 2010 have been included in the analysis of the consultation. In October, councillors will consider a report containing the results of the consultation and decide what service changes to make.

# Emergency Planning

The Emergency Planning Team at Wiltshire Council are planning on carrying out a pilot in the Bradford on Avon Community Area to look at how they can support communities to prepare for emergencies.

## **What will happen next:**

Members of the Emergency Planning Team will be coming to a future area board meeting to talk to community members about they can help prepare to protect themselves in emergency situations.

# Community Area Transport Working Group

## At the July Area Board meeting:

It was announced that a Community Area Transport Working Group was going to be set up.

Every year Wiltshire Council Highways Department receives hundred of requests for transports improvements. This includes requests for traffic calming, zebra crossings, footpath widening and the installation of roundabouts.

In the past these schemes were prioritised according to a set of criteria which looked at a variety of factors such as the number of accidents recorded at that location and the number of people who would benefit from a scheme.

These schemes will now also be assessed by the Transport Working Group to ensure that local priorities can be taken into consideration.

## Current situation:

The community area manager has written to all Town and Parish Councils asking them if they would like nominate a representative for the working group.

The first meeting of the transport working group is planned to take place in October.

It is planned that the results of the discussions from the first group will be fed back to Councillors at the November Area Board.

The Area Board has a total of £10,062 to spend on transport improvements across the community area.

A guide to the cost of schemes is available at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/costwiltshighwaysworks](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/costwiltshighwaysworks)



# Library Services Review

## **At the July Area Board:**

The Head of the Library Service explained that service was currently undertaking a review with four stages: Define, Design, Develop and Deploy. The service was currently in the Define stage – looking at what the library service does, how they do it and what customers want. A number of focus groups had already taken place and individuals could contribute to this process by filling in the survey with their top priorities for the library service.

## **Current situation:**

You can still have your say on your top five priorities for a future library service by going to

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesnews.htm?aid=104434](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesnews.htm?aid=104434)

# Car Parking Strategy

## **At the July area board meeting:**

It was announced that residents had the opportunity to comment on car parking strategy proposals from 12 July to 3 September 2010.

The consultation looked at areas such as parking charges, residents parking and managing off and on street parking.

## **Current situation:**

An officer will be attending the September Area Board to feedback on the comments of local people on the car parking strategy and the next steps.

# Leisure Review

## **At the July Area Board:**

Councillor Stuart Wheeler explained how Wiltshire Council had undertaken a review of its indoor leisure facilities.

Currently, there is a mixture of facilities across the county. These include privately owned, council-operated, community run and some that are jointly used by local schools. The council contributes towards the running of 23 indoor facilities and would need to spend £93 million just to maintain them for the next 25 years. This would not include any improvements, refurbishments or building any new facilities and the Council believes this would be an inefficient use of resources.

The review looks at leisure provision for the next 25 years and focuses on a programme of replacement, refurbishment and devolvement of leisure facilities.

## **Next steps:**

Councillor Stuart Wheeler will be attending the Bradford on Avon board to discuss the options for Bradford on Avon swimming pool in more detail.

You can have your say on the leisure consultation by going to

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure)

More information on other community issues  
can be found on our online issue tracker.

Go to [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)