

MINUTES

Meeting: SALISBURY AREA BOARD

Place: City Hall, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury, SP2 7TU

Date: Thursday 3 December 2009

Start Time: 7.00pm Finish Time: 9.30pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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Papers available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Councillors Mary Douglas (Chairman), John Brady, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Ricky Rogers (Vice-Chairman), Paul Sample

Also in attendance - Councillor Ian McLennan

Wiltshire Council Officers

Stephanie Denovan – Service Director for Schools and Learning Robin Townsend – Head of Leisure Nick Glass – Head of Secondary School Development Martin Cooper – Secondary Strategy Manager Winnie Manning – Youth Development Co-ordinator Marianna Dodd – Community Area Manager (Salisbury) James Hazlewood – Senior Democratic Services Officer

Parish Councils

Salisbury City Council – Su Thorpe (Leader), John English, Cheryl Hill, , Annie Child, Laverstock and Ford Parish Council – John Stevenson, Virginia McLennan, Liz Dore

Partners

Wiltshire Police – Inspector David McMullin
Wiltshire Fire & Rescue – Mike Franklin
Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP) –John Potter, Tony Thorpe
Mary Paisey
Salisbury CAB – Ken Taylor
Bishopdown Farm Residents Association – John Seymour
Harnham Neighbourhood Association – John McGarry

Salisbury Journal – M Blake
Civic Society – Ralph Bryder
South Wilts Agenda 21 – Margaret Willmot
St Edmunds Community Association – David Humphrys, William Mills, Tony West,
Mary Stephens
St Edmunds School – Linda Knapp
Burnbake Trust – Rita Maple
Tenants Panel – Colin Duller

Members of the Public: 17 Total in attendance: 55

Agenda item	Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision	Action By
1.	Chairman's Welcome and Introduction The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and invited the Board Members to introduce themselves.	
2.	Apologies for Absence	
	 Apologies for absence had been received from the following: Wiltshire Councillor Brian Dalton Laverstock and Ford Parish Council – David Law Wiltshire NHS – Jo Howes Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP) – Debrah Biggs Wiltshire College – Bev Flanagan 	
3.	Declarations of Interest Councillor Mary Douglas declared a personal interest, regarding Item 10.1 – Community Area Grants, solely for the grant application made by The Trussell Trust, as her son had previously worked for the organisation. Councillor Richard Clewer also declared a personal interest in the grant application from the Trussell Trust, as he had previously been involved with the organisation.	
4.	 Decision The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. The Chairman gave an update on the following items: Pavements – This issue had been referred to the Director for Transport, Environment and Leisure and was under consideration by Councillors and officers. The name of the Speedwatch Co-ordinator would be announced at the next meeting. At the Chairman's invitation, Councillor John Brady spoke regarding the Salisbury Transport Model, as the relevant Cabinet Member. The South Wiltshire Core Strategy had been submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. As increased development would require appropriate transport 	

infrastructure, the Transport Model would be considered as part of the Core Strategy.

Before moving onto the main items on the agenda, the Chairman announced that there would be a change to the order of the agenda, whereby item 6 would be taken before item 5 and item 9 would be taken before item 7.

6. <u>Go Bananas! – Disability Equality in Wiltshire</u>

The Chair reported that 3 December each year was UN International Day of Disabled People. All week, events and activities were being held across the county to celebrate the achievements of disabled people. Earlier in 2009, the Salisbury Area Board had agreed to fund a project working with local disabled young people in and around Salisbury. At the Chairman's invitation, Winnie Manning, Youth Development Co-ordinator for Wiltshire Council, gave an overview of the project.

"Go Bananas!" was a monthly nightclub specifically aimed at young people with disabilities or vulnerabilities. The first event had been held on 29 November 2009 in the Chapel nightclub, and had been a great success. The project sought to help the young people involved to grow in confidence, make friends and to give them an opportunity to socialise in a safe environment. "Go Bananas!" would run for at least one year, thanks to the funding received from the Area Board.

Winnie introduced two of the young people involved, Charlie King and Liam Harding, who both spoke about their experiences at the event, and Nikki Darch, Mrs Silman and Mrs Howlett, parents of other young people who had enjoyed the Go Bananas nightclub.

5. <u>Your Local Issues</u>

The Chairman commented that many issues had been raised for consideration by the Area Board, since its inception earlier in the year. A list of issues and their current status was included within the agenda papers.

Marianna Dodd, Community Area Manager for Salisbury, explained the process for submitting an issue, and clarified the distinction between matters which could be addressed through the "issues" system, and those which should be referred to local Councillors, the relevant Cabinet Member, the Area Board, or partner agencies.

The Chairman emphasised that anyone who had an issue should approach their local Councillor in the first instance, if the issue could not be dealt with by the Councillor, it should then be brought to the Board, and logged through the issues process.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- In relation to publicity for the issues process, and for the Area Board in general, it was noted that details were available on the Council's website, in the local press and through newsletters, which were often people's preferred source of information.
- It was noted that Issue 386 (regarding moving Hampton Park into the City area) was purely hypothetical at present, as there were currently no plans to review electoral boundaries.
- The originator of an issue would receive email alerts each time the status of the issue was updated.

9. Setting the Council's Spending Priorities

This exercise was part of the consultation on the Council's budget for 2010-11. Residents' views were sought on how the Council's services should be prioritised, and this would form part of the consultation process prior to the Council setting the budget in February 2010.

The Chairman emphasised that the intention behind the process was to get a general indication of the public's views on the Council's overall spending priorities, rather than a detailed consultation on the exact figures within the budget.

A short film was shown, which set out the main services provided by Wiltshire Council, how much these cost, and how they were funded. Following the film, those present were invited to complete "voting cards" which asked whether more, the same, or less money should be spent on various services. The results from this Area Board would be made available later in the meeting, and the overall results would be reported to the Cabinet.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- It was noted that the figures on the handouts were slightly different from those in the presentation. The Chair undertook to clarify this and to provide a response.
- A member of the public asked whether the Council received more in government grants than it contributed through business rates, or less. The Chair undertook to find out and to provide a response.
- Concern was raised that those present had no opportunity to consult with the organisations they were representing. The Chairman explained that there were additional copies of the voting cards which could be taken away and returned to the freepost address listed on the back.
- It was suggested that the cards could be put on the Council's website as this would increase the level of response. The

James Hazlewood

James Hazlewood

	Chairman undertook to pass this back to the research team who were managing the consultation process.	James Hazlewood
7.	<u>Academies</u>	
	Stephanie Denovan, Service Director for Schools and Learning, gave a presentation on Academies.	
	Academies had been introduced in 2000, and were independent, non-fee paying schools, maintained by the local education authority, via state funding and benefitting from an endowment trust provided by sponsors.	
	The Wellington Academy in Tidworth had recently replaced Castledown Foundation School and had received around £32 million of investment towards new facilities. The design for the site included innovative use of space and buildings to maximise the benefit from the surroundings, including the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty adjacent to the site. New provision included boarding facilities and a "campus" style layout, while the school now also provided for sixth form students and specialised in Languages and Business and Enterprise.	
	Two academy proposals had been under development in Salisbury, as this would guarantee capital investment earlier than the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, of which Salisbury would form part of the last wave in 2016.	
	A project for an academy at Salisbury High School was now entering the feasibility stage, and was likely to open as an academy in the school's current buildings, with the new build planned to take place in approximately two years' time. The project was sponsored jointly by an Independent School, Wiltshire Council and Salisbury Diocese.	
	Another proposal had been produced for an academy in Laverstock, which would be a mixed faith academy comprising the current buildings at Wyvern College, and the St Edmund's and St Joseph's schools. However, this proposal would not proceed further, as it had not received the required support from all parties involved. Alternative options were currently under consideration.	
	Following the presentation, questions and comments were raised as follows:	
	It was noted that the two proposals for Salisbury were not directly connected and that the Salisbury High School bid could proceed without the Laverstock project. However, the initial plan had been to increase the pupil capacity at Salisbury High School which in turn would have reduced the demand on the Laverstock site.	

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	 Support was expressed for the Salisbury High School academy project, as this would attract sponsorship and capital investment which would benefit the whole community. 	
8.	Updates from Representatives	
	Councillor Su Thorpe, Leader of Salisbury City Council (SCC), gave an update on the following issues:	
	 SCC had held a successful event for the switching on of the Christmas Lights. The event had been attended by 7,000-10,000 people and had included fireworks, and performances by the junior Cathedral Choir and a pop band. It was estimated that around 65% of those attending had come from outside the city. Another successful event had been the Halloween evening, held at Bemerton Heath Neighbourhood Centre. The second tranche of community grants was now available; details were available on the SCC website. Confirmation was sought from Wiltshire Council regarding how SCC could access the "R2" fund, which comprised money received from developers under Section 106 contributions. SCC considered that this funding should be spent by the City Council and other parish councils. Councillor John Brady, as the Cabinet Member with responsibility for planning, undertook to look into this issue. 	Cllr John Brady
	Liz Dore of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council explained that she would be the nominated representative of the Parish Council at future meetings. Virginia McLennan, also from the Parish Council, referred to the issue of heavy traffic which had been raised at the previous meeting. A date had now been arranged for a site visit and to discuss a way forward with all relevant parties.	
10.	Funding and Grants	
	a. Community Area Grants	
	It was noted that the Area Board had just over £23,000 left in the budget for Community Area Grants.	
	The Chairman invited a representative from each of the grant applicants to give a brief overview of their project to the Board. After each of the applicants had spoken, the Chairman invited questions and discussion, then asked for a show of hands from those present to reflect public opinion. Finally, the Area Board members voted on each application.	

Decision

The Trussell Trust was awarded £5,000 to engage professionals to produce a feasibility study on the redevelopment of the existing St Michael's Community building on Bemerton Heath.

<u>Reason</u> The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would contribute to the expansion of the existing facilities.

Marianna Dodd

In relation to the above grant, the Chairman emphasised that the Board would not normally approve a grant for a speculative project with no direct benefit to the community. However, the track record of The Trussell Trust was such that the Board supported the bid on this occasion. It was suggested that a bid to the Local Performance Reward Grant Scheme may be able to contribute to the eventual building costs.

Marianna Dodd

Decision

Fank Funk was awarded £1,000 to fund website design and development for an Internet Radio station that targets those with social needs.

<u>Reason</u> The application met the Community Area Grants criteria for 2009/10 and would encourage participation from young people with social needs such as drug and alcohol issues, anti-social behaviour and social exclusion.

It was suggested that the applicant for the above grant should make contact with Spark Radio, which was a similar project run by Wiltshire College.

b. Performance Reward Grant Scheme

The Chairman explained the background to this funding source, the detail of which had been presented at the previous meeting. It was noted that a bid had been received from Salisbury Police for a scheme to provide trained and qualified Taxi Marshalls to cover the busy periods in the evenings during the run-up to Christmas and the New Year

This bid would normally have come to the Board for initial consideration. If supported, it would have been passed to the Performance Panel for final approval. However, due to the timescales involved, it had not been possible to following this usual procedure and so the Board's support had been sought and obtained by email. The Bid had since been approved, subject to the conditions below:

- 1. That this is run as a pilot to carry out local research to assess the effectiveness of taxi marshalls.
- 2. That the Area Board shares the learning from this research with the rest of the county.

Marianna Dodd 3. That the evaluation of the success of the pilot includes public perception as well as the number of incidents. Baselines and targets should be set.

The Area Board Members indicated that they were happy to accept condition 2, and Inspector David McMullen spoke to confirm that the Police would comply with conditions 1 and 3.

Note – Councillor Paul Sample declared a personal interest in the above matter, as a Member of the Wiltshire Police Authority.

c. Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP)

At the Chairman's invitation, Tony Thorpe, of Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (SCCAP) requested the release of remainder of the funding for SCCAP.

Tony commented that the Partnership was not likely to require the full amount of funding available (£10,328), and so requested that £7,836 be released at this time. Should any further funding be required, a request would be made to the Area Board at its next meeting. It was noted that any funding remaining unreleased at the end of the financial year would be returned to the Community Area Grants budget.

Decision

The second tranche of funding to the Salisbury City Community Area Partnership (£7,836) was released.

Marianna Dodd

11. R2 Funding

The Chairman explained that R2 funding comprised financial contributions from developers under planning legislation (known as Section 106 contributions), and was specifically intended for use on sport and recreational facilities in the community.

In January 2009 the former Salisbury District Council, City Area (Community) Committee agreed the use of £100K from R2 for the South Wilts Sports Club Pavilion. This would normally have been ratified by the Planning Committee, but the process was not completed before the reorganisation of Local Government in Wiltshire. As such, the Area Board's approval was now sought to complete the process.

Members were supportive of the proposed use of R2 funding for this project. However, the view was raised that the money should be linked to the early provision of the footpath requested by the nearby school, to improve pedestrian safety on surrounding roads. Peter Curtis, of South Wilts Sport Club, reported that the footpath would be alongside the new pavilion and so would be installed as soon as

	Decision The release of £100K from R2 Developers' Contributions towards the South Wilts Sports Club Pavilion was agreed subject to: 1. The grant of planning permission being finalised; 2. The earliest possible completion of the footpath from Wilton Road to Lower Bemerton; and 3. Confirmation from the Club of secured funding for the balance of the capital works.	Robin Townsend
12.	Future Meeting Dates, Evaluation and Close The Chairman announced the results of the consultation on spending priorities, which were as follows: The services coming top for prioritisation were: roads, adult social care for older people, adult social care for people with mental/physical disabilities and adults social care for people with learning difficulties. Those services identified as areas for potential savings were: planning, trading standards, archives and public records, and road safety training.	
	The next meeting of the Area Board would take place on Thursday 21 January 2010 at 7pm at South Wiltshire Grammar School for Girls, Stratford Road, Salisbury. The following meeting would be on Thursday 18 March 2010 at Salisbury High School. The Chairman thanked those present for coming and wished everyone a Happy Christmas.	