

THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE MEETING

Minutes of the Malmesbury Area (1) Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 16 July 2008 at Malmesbury Secondary School Hall, commencing at 7.00pm

Present:

Chairman: JPSS Thomson

Councillors: C Berry, VH Greenman, IJ Henderson, J Lay, R Sanderson, TR Sturgis, VA Vines

County/Town/Parish Councillors Present:

C Soden	Wiltshire County Council
W Blake	Malmesbury Town Council
S Killane	Malmesbury Town Council
M Snell	Malmesbury Town Council
O Gibbs	Brinkworth Parish Council
R Tallon	Brokenborough Parish Council
S Burne	Charlton Parish Council
T Fraser	Crudwell Parish Council
G Hayes	Crudwell Parish Council
I McKay	Crudwell Parish Council
S Jevons	Great Somerford Parish Council
B O'Donnell	Great Somerford Parish Council
T Mockler	Hankerton Parish Council
J Parmiter	Lea and Cleverton
A Pooley	Little Somerford Parish Council
G Lynham	Luckington and Alderton Parish Council
R Hillier	Minety Parish Council
R Rogers	Oaksey Parish Council
M Rea	Sherston Parish Council
P Hatherell	St Paul Malmesbury Without

Officers Present:

L Bell (Deputy Chief Executive) and J Densham (Democratic Services Assistant)

P Gerrard (WCC), M Gilmour (Project Manager, Malmesbury - Area Boards Development Phase, WCC), D Roberts (WCC) and J Vaughan (WCC)

Other Services Present:

Inspector S Cox (Wiltshire Police), Chief Inspector G Williams (Wiltshire Police), M Franklin (Wiltshire Fire Brigade) and J Edwards (Wiltshire Primary Care Trust)

Others Present:

K Oliver (Wilts & Berks Canal Trust), E Shellard (Malmesbury Cricket Club), A Shephard (Minety Lawn Tennis Club), J York Moore (Malmesbury School Governors) and C Pym

M17. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

A Woodcock (Mayor of Malmesbury), J Tremayne (Chair of Easton Grey Parish Council) and Hullavington Parish Council.

M18. Public Question/Receipt of Petitions

No public petitions or questions were received.

M19. Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings of the Area 1 Committee held on 20 May 2008, 21 May 2008 and 5 June 2008 were considered.

Resolved that the Minutes of the meetings held on 20 May 2008, 21 May 2008 and 5 June 2008 be signed as a correct record.

M20. Chairman's Announcements

The Chair announced the following:

- Malmesbury Town and the Malmesbury School have recently gained Fairtrade status. There had been strong support for Malmesbury to become a Fairtrade Town when the issue was debated at the Committee meeting last autumn, and it is therefore particularly gratifying to see local people coming together to realise their community goals;
- A Council-funded local business and services directory Made in Malmesbury for the Malmesbury area had been produced. The booklet is produced to promote local businesses and services with a focus on local goods. 8000 copies will be distributed door-to-door throughout the area;
- The Chairman reported that the Boundary Committee of the Electoral Commission had now published its draft recommendations for the proposed Wiltshire Council to take effect next year. The draft recommendations generally followed the scheme submitted by the County Council, that is, 98 Councillors in single member wards. The report was now available on the Electoral Commission website www.electoralcommission.org.uk. Comments must be sent to the Boundary Committee by no later than 25 August 2008;

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- The Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership would like to thank all those parishes who have engaged with the Audit of the Community Plan by updating their elements. There are, however, a number of parishes who have not yet returned the information requested and the Partnership would like to make a plea to all those parishes to return information to Alison Cross Jones before the end of July;
- The brand new purpose-built Primary Care Centre at Burton Hill has now opened to patients, bringing together a wide range of health services for people in Malmesbury and the surrounding area. The development also provides an 80-bedded nursing/care home and 28 'extra care' flats;
- Please note that the play equipment at White Lion Park is accessible to children with disabilities and they are encouraged to use the facilities; and
- The Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership are asking local people and organisations to get involved in this year's campaign entitled The Big Tidy-up – 30 Days Hath September which will run throughout September across the whole of Wiltshire. Anyone who would like to, or is planning, a 'community tidy-up' should contact Ian Whiteway (iwhiteway@northwilts.gov.uk) at NWDC.

M21. Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
I Henderson	Item 8 (6) – Malmesbury Area (1) Community Area Funding Distribution 2008/09	Personal	Member of Thomas Hobbes Festival Society	Spoke
V Vines	Item 8 (4) – Malmesbury Area (1) Community Area Funding Distribution 2008/09	Personal	Member of Dauntsey Parish Council	Spoke

M22. Neighbourhood Policing Update

Two officers of the Wiltshire Police attended to give a verbal update of the current policing situation in the Malmesbury area. Specific figures are included in Appendix 1 to the Minutes.

Items discussed included:

- There was evidence to indicate that the drop in crime and increase in protection was due to the good working partnerships that the police have forged; also the introduction of high visibility jackets had deterred criminal behaviour;
- Positive action has been taken with respect to anti-social behaviour in the area ensuring that known problem areas are well-patrolled;
- Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs), Disorder Notices and Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Order have been employed to reduce anti-social behaviour;

- Hot spots currently being addressed are Station Road Car Park, Abbey Garden area, market cross and villages of Brinkworth and Hullavington;
- Off-licences had been targeted to ensure that no underage sales were being made and that the prosecution of adults buying alcohol for minors was well-advertised;
- Contact management and the new 0845 telephone number had been improved with the majority of calls being answered promptly; it is hoped that this will address the under reporting of crime in rural areas by encouraging the public to use the free phone number via press releases from Wiltshire Police;
- Parking enforcement will be the next issue to tackle; and
- While Enquiry Centres have not been proved to be cost-effective in the smaller towns, Malmesbury Library has a police point for the general public and a Special Police Community Officer will be accompanying the Mobile Library to establish greater contact.

Resolved that

- 1 The Senior Parking Manager attend the next meeting to address issues regarding parking enforcement in the Malmesbury Area; and
- 2 A recommendation be made to Youth Service workers to support Wiltshire Police work.

M23. Multi-Agency Flood Working Group – Budget Spend

Consideration was given to Report No. 7, circulated with the agenda, which updated the Committee on the work of the Flood Working Group and the spending commitments to date.

Items discussed included:

- The Environmental Agency have been preparing a report on the flooding issues around Dauntsey;
- The Environment Agency and the Department of Transport would be working to resolve culvert issues under motorway, which Wiltshire County Council have said they will ensure happens;
- Several meetings with Railtrack have resulted in the identification and clearing of most culverts in the A49 Kingsway Bridge area;
- Minety gypsies have been reluctant to allow Wiltshire County Council onto their land to assess drainage issues ahead of their appeal; and
- Written questions submitted prior to the meeting by the Chair of Crudwell Parish Council were considered and responded to by the Chair of the Flood Working Group.

Resolved that

- 1 Wiltshire County Council work with the Deputy Chief Executive to gain access to the Minety gypsy site; and
- 2 A policy recommendation to the Implementation Executive Budget Task Group to set a single on-going budget for the purposes of flood-working be made.

M24. Malmesbury Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/09

Consideration was given to Report No. 8, circulated with the agenda, which presented recommendations relating to 7 funding applications from the 2008/09 Community Area Award Scheme.

Items discussed included:

- A member of the Committee had visited the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust site after the previous decision to defer the decision in order to confirm that health and safety measures were now in place.

Resolved that

- 1 Wilts & Berks Canal Trust – Award £2140 from the capital budget towards the restoration of Lock 4 of the Wilts & Berks Canal, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009;
- 2 Malmesbury Cricket Club – Award £2500 from the capital budget towards the cost of new storage facilities for club equipment, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009;
- 3 Malmesbury School Governors – Award £1250 from the revenue budget towards a joint schools community music project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009;
- 4 Dauntsey Parish Council - Award £3000 from the capital budget towards new play equipment at the village recreation field, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009;
- 5 Brinkworth Parish Council - Award £2500 from the capital budget towards the installation of a toilet in the village, conditional upon the award being paid

to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009;

- 6 Thomas Hobbes Festival Society - Award £3166 from the capital budget towards a bronze plaque and bench to commemorate Thomas Hobbes, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009;
- 7 Minety Lawn Tennis Club – Award £2400 from the revenue budget towards the development of primary school links with Minety Lawn Tennis Club, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31 March 2009; and
- 8 Members make a request to the Executive for further capital funding to satisfy the demand for funding and that anticipated during the remainder of the year.

M25. Community Boards – Development Phase

Consideration was given to Report No. 9, circulated with the agenda, which noted progress on the Development Phase of the Community Boards project, and asked to nominate two Members to represent the Malmesbury Area (1) Committee on a Task Group to help shape Community Boards during the transition period ahead of the formal Vesting Day for the new Authority.

Items discussed included:

- The Committee discussed whether the setting up of a Task Group was the best approach or whether to use the Committee meeting itself as the forum for all discussion;
- That service delivery should be tested;
- Each new Community Board should test one Frontline Service issue to work out the mechanism with partnership involvement to solve it;
- It was suggested that relationship building would also be a useful part of the pilot so that the Community is aware of the resources and approaches available;
- A small task group may be necessary to collate information from discussions and bring back to the next meeting;
- A two-way involvement could be established by the attendance of members at Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP) meetings;
- Parish Councillors wished to represent themselves and not to nominate representatives for the group of parishes, which they feel would reduce transparency and accountability;

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- The Area Committees have different types of issues and as such the Malmesbury Area councillors would all like to be involved in determining which issues are selected for this pilot;
- Known successful projects (such as White Lion Park) should be used as a blueprint to solve the selected issues;
- Councillors should see themselves as facilitators in the process of resolving community issues by offering resources, support and an ability to cut red tape;
- There is a need for some 'quick wins' to encourage missing parishes to contribute;
- Challenging the mechanisms of the current Committee might expose the current problem areas in resolving local issues, for example, legislation or funding; and
- Testing the mechanisms through a task group who can prepare elements for discussion at the Area Committee meeting may speed up the procedure given the tight timescales remaining for the pilot scheme.

Resolved that

- 1 Members noted progress on the Development Phase of the Community Boards project;
- 2 Members resolved not to nominate two representatives to the Task Group;
- 3 The next Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership meeting on 29 July 2008 to be extended to allow for the collation of issues to be used in the pilot; and
- 4 The next meeting's agenda be kept deliberately light to allow time to consider MVCAP's outcomes.

M26. Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Planning Update

- Val Price, previous Chair of the Partnership, has sadly passed away. The Partnership wished to acknowledge her substantial contribution;
- On 3 June 2008, Councillor Vines was elected as Chair with Alison Cross-Jones as Vice-Chair; and
- MVCAP now has its own website www.malmesburyandthevillages.net and parishes were encouraged to set up links

M27. Parish Council Update

There were no parish updates.

M28. Outside Bodies

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There were no outside body updates.

The meeting started at 7.10pm and finished at 9.30pm.

There were 30 members of the public present.

Signed.....

Dated.....