

**Draft Minutes of the Malmesbury Area (1) Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 23rd January 2008 at Crudwell Village Hall, commencing at 7.00 pm.**

Present:

Chairman: J.P.S.S. Thomson

Councillors: C. Berry, V.H. Greenman, I.J. Henderson, J Lay, R. Sanderson, T.R. Sturgis and V.A. Vines

Also present: Councillors B. Causer and R.L. Tonge

Community Representatives:

T Fraser	Crudwell Parish Council
J Crockett	Lea and Cleverton Parish Council
G. Lynham	Luckington Parish Council
O. Gibbs	Brinkworth Parish Council
K. Tudor	Minety Parish Council
T. Mockler	Hankerton Parish Council
B. Dalton	Hankerton Parish Council
M. Wilkins	Charlton Parish Council
T. Pooley	Little Somerford Parish Council
B. O'Donnell	Great Somerford Parish Council
P. Campaigne	Norton & Foxley Parish Council
E. Blacker	Dauntsey Parish Council
J Lawton	Malmesbury Town Council

Officers Present:

L. Bell (Deputy Chief Executive), M. Gilmour (Principal Community Partnership Officer)
L Pullin (Policy and Democratic Services Officer) and M Todd (Senior Policy and
Democratic Services Officer)

C Eales (Environment Agency), R Symonds (Environment Agency), K Vincent (Flood
Management Team), J Soper (Flood Management Team), P Gerrard (Wiltshire County
Council) and V Buller (Wessex Water).

M36. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

J Tremayne (Easton Grey Parish Council), Hullavington Parish Council, A Woodcock
(Malmesbury Town Council), B Ingham (Malmesbury Without Parish Council), James
York-Moore, Martin Rea and John Matthews (Sherston Parish Council) and C Soden
(Wiltshire County Council).

M37. Public Question/Receipt of Petitions

There were no public questions or petitions.



M38. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Area 1 Committee held on 28th November 2007 were considered.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th November 2007 be signed as a correct record.

M39. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman informed Members that at the meeting of the Council's Executive held last week Members had considered the views of each of the Area Committees and, in line with those views, had resolved to support the development of pilot Area Boards in North Wiltshire.

Area Committees would continue and would be used to shape Area Boards during the "development phase". District Council Officers would now work with Officers from the County Council towards a plan for how the "development phase" would be progressed. More information would be brought to the Area 1 Committee in due course.

The Chairman also informed Members that this matter had been called-in and would be considered at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24 January.

M40. Declarations of Interest

Councillor V Vines declared a personal interest in item number 7 regarding the funding application for Dauntsey Parish Council as he was a member of the Parish Council. Councillor Vines remained in the meeting but did not take part in the discussion on this item.

M41. Flooding in the Malmesbury Area

The Committee considered report no. 6, circulated separately from the Agenda, which set out the issues in the Area 1 parishes affected by flooding. The report gave updates from the various parishes and set out findings and actions taken in the affected areas.

Councillor H Greenman gave a presentation regarding flooding in the North Wiltshire area. The presentation covered the following issues:

- The need for a multi-agency approach to this problem.
- The locations affected by flooding in the North Wiltshire area.
- Recent flooding incidents and the current situation.
- The action that had been taken so far:
 - A multi-agency group had been set up
 - Government funding for flood relief had been applied for
 - Wiltshire County Council was investigating highway drainage issues with a dedicated team with an ongoing gully clearance programme
 - North Wiltshire District Council was working with local landowners to clear culverts and ditches and undertaking enforcement action where necessary
 - Increasing resources to deal with flooding issues.
- The action to be taken next:

- The multi-agency group would agree terms of reference and an action plan
 - North Wiltshire District Council was proposing a budget for flooding for 2008/09
 - Work with the local MP to help to secure funding and provide pressure to statutory bodies
 - Wiltshire County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee was monitoring the response to the Interim Pitt report.
- The need for one group to take this matter forward was stressed along with the need for the local MP to lobby the government on the issue of flooding in this area.

The Chairman then opened the meeting to members of the public to ask questions and raise concerns. Details of the questions and answers are set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

Members then discussed the following matters:

- The importance of local knowledge and the possibility of Parishes undertaking surveys.
- It was important to work with landowners to find a solution. Would Parish Councils be prepared to consider an increase in their precept to raise funds for flood defence work?
- The need to take up with the local MP the fact that no organisation currently has a statutory responsibility to maintain water courses.
- It was noted that wildlife/conservation issues should be taken into account before any work is undertaken and the need for early dialogue was important.
- Members thanked Councillor Greenman for the work he had undertaken regarding flooding issues.
- The Chairman agreed to write to the emergency services on behalf of the Committee to thank them for their help during the recent flooding episodes.
- An update regarding flooding should be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolved: To recommend that:

- (1) The multi agency group agree "Terms of Reference" at its next meeting that will set out how it intends to co-ordinate and share resources to deliver improvements and actions across all organisations as part of an agreed programme of works.
- (2) The multi agency group provide regular updates to the Area Committee/Parish Councils setting out delivery against the agreed action plan on a monthly/quarterly basis.
- (3) Wiltshire County Council, as the continuing authority, investigate the possibility of forming a joined-up County-wide land drainage team to pool resources and deliver solutions.
- (4) The Leaders of North Wiltshire District Council and Wiltshire County Council write to the local MP James Gray to highlight the flooding issues in North Wiltshire with a view to increasing government grants and resources.

- (5) The Leaders of North Wiltshire District Council and Wiltshire County Council write to the Environment Agency, Wessex Water and Thames Water to ensure that support within these organisations is given in working towards delivery of a shared programme of works.
- (6) The remainder of the Area 1 Committee capital funding of £14,518 be allocated to a central fund for use by the multi agency working group to address flood defence issues in Area 1.
- (7) The Executive be asked to consider allocating central funding towards the flood problems.

M42. Area 1 Community Area Funding Distribution 2007/08

Consideration was given to Report No. 7, circulated with the agenda, which presented recommendations relating to 15 funding applications for the 2007/08 Community Area Award Scheme. The report linked the applications to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan 2005-2015 where appropriate and set out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

Resolved: To agree the following funding distribution of the Area (1) Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2007/2008:

- 1) The Grapevine, Hankerton Community Newsletter – Award £419 from the revenue budget towards the cost of IT equipment to produce the village newsletter, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 2) Malmesbury Branch of Wiltshire Mind – Award £140 from the revenue budget towards the cost of an A frame board and associated art work.
- 3) Lea & Cleverton Parish Council – Award £346 from the revenue budget towards the provision of a Parish Council notice board in the village, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 4) Charlton Village Hall – Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the installation of replacement lighting in the village hall, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.
- 5) Friends of Luckington School – Award £462 from the revenue budget towards the installation of a netball posts and indoor court marking, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 6) Little Somerford Village Hall – Award £450 from the revenue budget towards the cost of re-conditioning the village hall floor.
- 7) Dauntsey Parish Council – Award £2,000 from the capital budget towards the costs of two notice boards, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.

- 8) Oaksey Youth Club - Award £316 from the revenue budget towards the cost of Foldback monitors for use with the Oaksey youth music project.
- 9) Malmesbury Branch of the National Childbirth Trust – Award £273 from the revenue budget towards the establishment of a Breastfeeding Support Group, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.
- 10) The Jackdaw Community Newspaper – Award £450 from the revenue budget towards the publication of the February 2008 issue, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.
- 11) Crudwell Parish Council – Award £1,250 from the revenue budget towards a feasibility study to update and enhance the Post office Green Play Area, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.
- 12) Sherston Village Hall – Award £3,212 from the capital budget towards a new central heating system, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.
- 13) Sherston Parish Council – No award from the capital budget towards preliminary surveys in respect to the purchase of the Old School, Sherston.
- 14) Brinkworth Recreational Group – Award £1,881 from the capital budget towards the provision of acoustic tiling and a stage system in the village hall, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 15) Sherston Scout and Guide Management Committee – Award £3,824 from the capital budget towards the refurbishment of the Scout HQ kitchen, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.

M43. Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Planning Update

A copy of the Malmesbury and Villages Community Area update is attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes.

M44. Parish Council Update

There was no Parish Council update.

M45. Outside Bodies

There were no reports from outside bodies.

The meeting started at 7pm and finished at 9.05pm.

There were 200 members of the public present.