

Notes/Action List

Malmesbury Area Board meeting held on 17 September 2008

(The meeting was held at Malmesbury School starting at 7.15pm and concluding at 9.40pm)

District Council Members Present

Councillor John Thomson – Chairman
Councillors Howard Greenman, Ian Henderson, Rachel Miles, Ray Sanderson, Toby Sturgis and Viv Vines

Officers Present

Jo Cogswell (Community Partnership Manager), Julia Densham (Democratic Services Assistant) and Miranda Gilmour (Area Board Project Manager)

Parish and Community Representatives

Martin Alvis (*Wiltshire Police*), James Bucknell (*Brokenborough Parish Council*), Mike Franklin (*Wiltshire Fire Service*), Peter Campaigne (*Norton and Foxley Parish Council*), Steve Cox (*Wiltshire Police*), Catherine Doody (*Malmesbury Town Council*), Terry Fraser (*Crudwell Parish Council*), Brian Gore (*Lea and Cleverton*), Rob Hilliar (*Minety Parish Council*), Bernard Ingham (*St Paul M'bury Without Parish Council*), Roger Lee (*St Paul M'bury Without Parish Council*), George Lynham (*Luckington and Alderton Parish Council*), Ross Mackie (*St Paul M'bury Without Parish Council*), John Parmiter (*Clerk - Lea & Cleverton Parish Council*), Brian O'Donnell (*Great Somerford Parish Council*), Robin Rogers (*Oaksey Parish Council*), Martyn Snell (*Malmesbury Town Council*), Carole Soden (*Wiltshire County Council*), Elizabeth Threlfall (*Brinkworth Parish Council*), John Tremayne (*Easton Grey Parish Council*) and Andrew Woodcock (*Mayor - Malmesbury Town Council*).

Minute Ref. No.	Agenda Item/Subject Area	Issues Discussed	Agreement / Recommendation (if any)	Action(s) Required	Action by Whom
MB1	Agenda Item 1 – Area Boards and Community Area Partnerships	<p>A presentation (attached as Appendix 1) was given by the pilot Area Board Project Manager.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of Area Boards is to encourage a wider engagement from 			

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		<p>the community given that it is those that live locally that have the deepest understanding of local issues. It is hoped that this will encourage local democracy and facilitate the delivery of more effective services;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given that our future population will be made up of an active, older demographic, the Area Board would like to initiate a culture of community engagement amongst this group; • Parish Council management and involvement is very important as it informs the Unitary process. The unitary Council is prepared to delegate responsibility and funding to the PCs, with Parish Stewards being able to resolve more local issues. The Council will also pay for Parish elections; and • Parish Councils need to be involved with the Community Plan process. 			
MB2	Agenda Item 2 – Area Board Project Update	A verbal update was given by the pilot Area Board Project Manager. This included suggestions for future pilot Area Board meetings as well as work being conducted with the Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership.			

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development Control processes will remain much the same as present, with the addition of a fifth committee that will consider strategic/large planning applications. There will be an interim committee in place for the period between Vesting Day and the Unitary Councillor elections. 			
MB3	Agenda Item 3 – Community Issues	<p><u>Speeding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested that the community could become involved in assessing speeding problems in the Malmesbury area to distinguish the real problems from the perceived speeding issues (<i>this had previously been determined by the community as a 'sticky issue'</i>) ; Invited to participate in the first phase will be Sherston, Charlton, Dauntsey, Minety and Luckington; In the longer term, the safety issues require a multi-pronged approach including safe walkways, speed limits, good road design and the co-ordination of services; and It may be possible to use the speed data gathering exercise to collect 	A safety group be set up within MVCAP and be trained by the Police to safely carry out speeding assessments including the purchase of 4 speed guns and high-visibility jackets.	As recommendation	Viv Vines / Miranda Gilmour / Inspector Steve Cox

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		<p>other information, for example, types of road users and volume of traffic.</p> <p><u>Large Goods Vehicles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the large numbers of non-UK LGV drivers in the area, it would be desirable if Satellite Navigation systems could be programmed to exclude C class roads until nearing their destination; • CCTV cameras have been installed to monitor LGVs in Malmesbury town centre and the police have asked shop keepers to keep records in order to corroborate the CCTV footage; • It is important for transport managers to be made aware of LGV drivers abusing road restrictions; and • Wiltshire County Council's Local Freight Assessment and Priority Mechanism is being applied to B4040 from Malmesbury – Leigh during 2008 and this possibly presents an opportunity for the community to become more engaged in the process. 	<p>Contact to be made with Highways Department (WCC) to investigate the possibility of local parishes participating in gathering data and that this issue form an item for the 19 November 2008 meeting.</p>	<p>As recommendation</p>	<p>Miranda Gilmour</p>

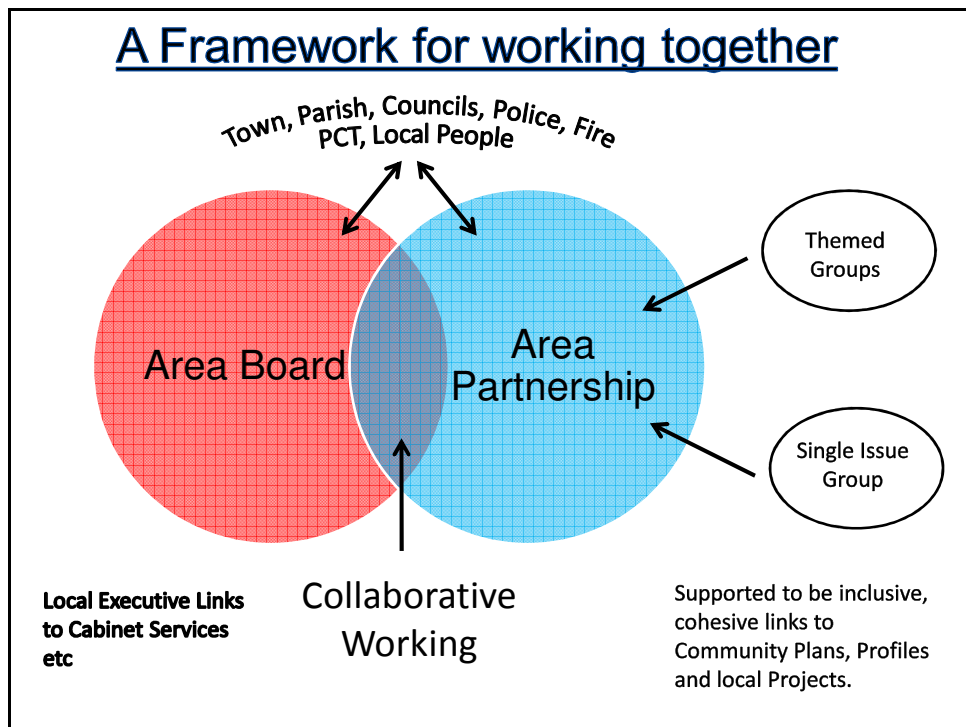
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		<p><u>Fire Safety</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A multi-agency approach has been adopted to target vulnerable residents in the Malmesbury area for a three month trial period. Agencies would include the Fire Service, Police, NWDC Housing Team , WCC Adult Social Care Team and the Primary Care Trust; • Given that more people are being cared for in the home rather than hospital there is an increased safety risk; • The Fire Service are very happy to promote this scheme through other organisations, for example, Parish Councils, and there are various types of literature available free of charge including a Fire Prevention handbook and leaflets, but this was separate from this pilot project; • The funding and installation of fire alarms is offered by Wiltshire Fire Service, while the householder commits to maintaining the device. If there is a malfunction, the Fire Service will repair/replace the alarm; and 	<p>Support the pilot multi-agency approach.</p>		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wiltshire Police will ask those at risk if they are prepared to share their personal information with other organisations to increase the levels of support available, accepting that Data Protection rules will apply. 			
MB4	Agenda Item 4 – Neighbourhood Policing Update	<p>Inspector Steve Cox delivered his regular update on policing issues in the Malmesbury area (attached as Appendix 2.) He also introduced Sergeant Martin Alvis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new regular beat surgery will be held in Malmesbury and will be advertised in the local press; • The current use of the library is the first step to reaching the community with other options being considered for the future; • The neighbourhood Policing teams have been re-engaging with the neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators; and • A danger spot was named at Newton Grove where poor parking provision is causing dangerous driving due to blind corners. 			

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MB5	Agenda Item 5 – Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Planning Update	<p>Councillor Vines delivered a verbal update on community events and issues (attached as Appendix 3.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request for the earlier circulation of Pilot Area Board minutes was made; • The group is currently engaged in updating the Community Plan; • The Pilot Area Board project is still causing some confusion but all endorse the ideas that have been suggested; and • Hullavington had requested support from MVCAP in order to oppose the Boundary Commission's recommendation that they be moved to a different ward. Hullavington have requested that such a decision be based on community interests not ward numbers. 	<p>The pilot Area Board Manager to circulate the minutes as soon as they are available.</p> <p>Meeting dates to be agreed and distributed at the next Area Board meeting.</p>	<p>As recommendation</p> <p>As recommendation</p>	<p>Miranda Gilmour</p> <p>Viv Vines</p>

Area Boards and Community Area Partnerships by Miranda Gilmour (Area Board Project Manager)

Area Board and the Community Partnership – Working Together



Area Board	Community Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Arm of the Unitary Council • Decisions on the unitary authority will be made by the unitary councillors, although parish and town councillors, the Community Partnership, local people and providers of local services will influence the decision making process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local people coming together in a voluntary capacity to improve the quality of life in their community (within agreed terms of reference). Membership to include any individual, provider of services, voluntary or community group, Councillor (unitary, town and parish) who wishes to join

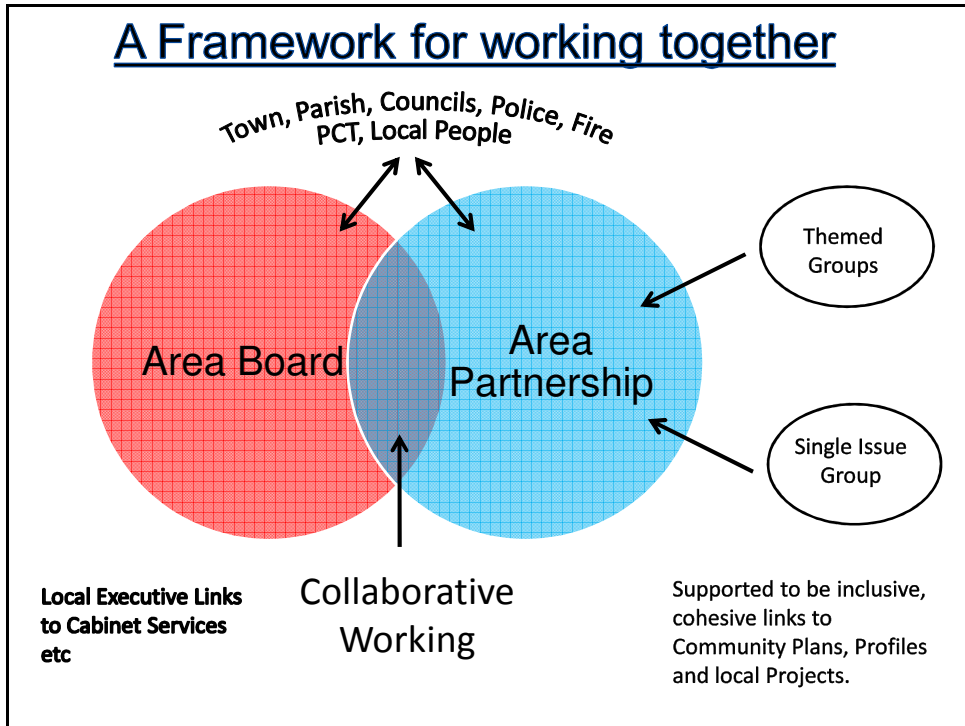
Area Board	Community Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To bring together organisations providing local services and the wider community in an annual cycle linked to the unitary authority's budget and decision making processes, to enable the Area Board to influence services provided in the community area for local people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To undertake local consultation; produce and audit the Community Plan to ensure that there is robust information representing the whole of the community area to inform the decisions made by the Area Board

Area Board	Community Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To influence the allocation of funding and resources in line with identified local needs and priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To host community engagement events jointly with the Area Board such as State of Area Debate and consultation about local issues

Area Board	Community Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree a framework for community consultations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To represent a wide cross section of the community including hard to reach groups and people who would not normally attend meetings

Area Board	Community Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To allocate core funding to the Community Area Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To obtain funding from external bodies (other than the Council) to enable the community to address local issues (where a local authority would be excluded)

Area Board	Community Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To hold failing services to account 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby Area Board to hold failing services to account



Police report to Malmesbury Area (1) Committee 17th Sept 2008.

Crime Report for Year to date April 2008 – Sept 2008.

Crime statistics

07/08 total crime = 189 07/08 detection rate = 10.58%

08/09 total crime = 181 08/09 detection rate = 24.3% (44 Det)

This is an area I am still making a priority to improve, during my time in post (2 ½ months) this detection rate has increased by 7%. I fully intend for this to improve further.

I am extremely impressed with the large increase in Detected crimes, as I stated at the last meeting in July 2008, this is evidence that we have a good community liaison whereby members of the public are happy to assist the police in our investigations, it is evidence of good partnership working and finally shows that we are catching criminals and bringing them to justice.

Update on Anti-social behaviour Police priorities

Town NPT

The area of Station Yard Long Stay Car Park in Malmesbury had been brought to my attention prior to the last meeting. This related to ASB by young drivers. A multi agency approach was adopted between the police and NWDC, namely Ray Sanderson and Ian Whiteway. We increased patrols at key times, only one offence detected and driver punished. At all other times the car park was quiet. Mr Ian Whiteway delivered questionnaires to residents regarding the issue, sadly however none were returned. Young drivers do meet in the car park and are now fully aware of our powers regarding Section 59 (seizure of their vehicles). We will keep patrolling the area and would request that members of the community report any offences to us.

Cloister Gardens- there have been no issues raised in this area over the past few months. This is a popular meeting place for people of all ages to congregate and consume alcohol. Proactive patrols are taking place and when applicable alcohol has been seized. It is thought that the wet summer has impacted on the numbers of persons using this open space in recent months and may explain why the area has been so quiet.

Market Cross- historically the meeting place in Malmesbury for Towns folk both young and old through varying hours of the day. Of concern in the past has been the congregation of persons having left licensed premises and the potential for disorder. The area is very much on the patrol route of officers who are able to successfully monitor behaviour at that location deterring any would be offences. Town CCTV has two cameras that are able to focus very well on to the area, this has and will continue to have a positive impact on ASB or crime in the area. It also allows for proactive monitoring of historic recordings that will allow officers to deal with any incidents not attended at the time.

EY RURAL NPT

Anti social behaviour in Brinkworth and Hullavington Village- there are no significant incidents to report on for these villages other than one adult individual in Hullavington that is causing some concern due to excessive alcohol consumption. This person is being referred to the anti social behaviour panel at North Wilts where it is anticipated a multi agency approach will be made to sort these issues out.

NPT is currently under going a new consultation process where new priorities will be identified as a result of that consultation.

Outcomes

Violence Against the Person offences are something we as the Wiltshire Police take very seriously, we will go toe to toe with any person who feels that they have the right to act in an anti-social manner and assault other members of the community. Positive Action will be taken against anyone committing offences of this type.

Crimes recorded = 33 of which 25 offences have been detected. (75.8% Det Rate)

We have also issued a number of PND's (Penalty notice for disorder) regarding non-recordable offences such as urinating in the street and persons being found in a drunk and disorderly state.

NPT Beat Surgeries

I will be opening my three police stations front doors at set times, two hours a week at each station (advertised using local media) to hold NPT surgeries. This will not be an Enquiry Office facility, it will however be a great way to facilitate

members of the community in contacting their local Beat Team to discuss local issues.

As you are aware Malmesbury library has been established as a policing point, a trained member of staff is able to assist members of the community in receiving lost property, giving advice on recording crime etc.

In addition to this PCSO Samantha WALSH who is part of the Cricklade NPT travels at least once a month on the Mobile Library to assist in reaching all sections of the community, this has been recognised as good practice and will be extended across my complete sector. PS ALVIS will be liaising with the Library Service regarding this.

Recent moves.

Arrivals

I am extremely pleased to have Sergeant Martin ALVIS on my team, he is in the position of Neighbourhood Policing Team sergeant for Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury and Cricklade. He is based here in Malmesbury and is a valued addition to my team. He brings with him great experience of Neighbourhood Policing issues having been instrumental in the implementation of Neighbourhood Policing in Chippenham.

Current Establishment.

We currently run 3 shifts of 4 Response Constables. Each shift covers Wootton Bassett, Cricklade and Malmesbury. In addition each area has a Neighbourhood policing team comprising of a Community Beat Manager (Police Constable), and depending of the area size either 1 or 2 PCSO'S. There are no plans to increase this number.

Malmesbury Town NPT – PC Mike TRIPP, PCSO Dee CURAN, SPC's FREEGARD and ASHTON.

Malmesbury Rural NPT – PC Louis BOWDEN, PCSO Durry MAULE, SPC's WARREN and TODD.

Steven J Cox
Inspector
Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury and Cricklade

NWDC Area 1 Committee – Wednesday 17 September 2008

MALMESBURY & THE VILLAGES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Viv Vines Chairman

Since Area 1 Committee last met, the Community Partnership has also met, and just like Area 1 and the Area 1 Pilot Board we began looking at the future and what part we could play, and needed to play, to champion the volunteer and community sector in what will be the new Unitary Local Government Structure.

So we are looking at our own Aims and Objectives and as a start at our Meeting we held a Meta Planning Session to basically look at who we are and where are we going in the future.

The meeting was really well attended and 4 key questions were raised.

1. What do you expect to deliver in the next 2 years?
2. How can M&VCAP work effectively with the community to address local issues?
3. What could prevent Partnership from delivering its recommendations?
4. What actions are needed to deliver key objectives by February 2009?

As you can imagine, with a large number in attendance, which included several representatives who had not previously attended, there were many ideas and responses but there does appear to be some agreement on what the priorities are and a small task group is looking at these in more detail and revising our Terms of Reference and the next Full Partnership meeting will consider these recommendations.

We are also in the process of updating the Community Area Plan. As you know the Community Plan covers the period 2005 to 2015 and a regular update is a must and again a small task group is involved in producing this.

Unfortunately there are still a few Parishes who have not provided an update and they will be given one last chance to provide this but it will have to be quick, as we have set ourselves a time limit and an early decision the task group has made is that they will recommend to the Partnership that a few priority issues will form a focus for action in the short term so that the success or non-success can be monitored effectively.

Following on from last Area 1 Committee, as agreed, we looked at the Wiltshire Council Community Boards-Development Phase Report and thank you for the opportunity. There is no doubt that there is still a misunderstanding in many people's minds on what role the M&VCAP will and can play in the future. I think it fair to say that the Community Partnership accepted the broad thrust of the way forward agreed by Area 1 Committee and the concept of using the next few months to test the "sticky issues" and the Partnership is looking forward to working with the Pilot Board. What will be required is an agreement on meeting dates so that the M&VCAP can be involved.

Finally, and this is where the M&VCAP can show their strength, a partner, Hullavington Parish Council, asked us to support them in their wish to remain within the M&VCP Area rather than facing a forced move to an adjoining Area as a result of the Unitary Council reorganisation proposals.

The M&VCAP unanimously decided to do so and a letter was sent on behalf of the Partnership to the Boundary Committee emphasising the fact that Community Areas were formed on the basis of history and “local tribal instincts” and that the Parishioners of Hullavington look towards Malmesbury as their “hub” for Police, Health and School issues and obviously for shopping, leisure and work and importantly that they have no natural shared links or interests with other areas. We finished by saying that the Partnership hopes that the issue is resolved on “community interests” and not strict Electoral Number voting arrangements for new Wards especially as the whole philosophy of Wiltshire County Area Boards and “Community Engagement” is about involving local communities working together.

In ending, I want to stress to you that there are still a few, including Parish Councils, in the M&VCP Area who have doubts as to the role the Partnership can play and why there is a need for a Partnership at all, and some have suggested that they see the benefit of going it alone.

There is nothing in the rules, in fact there are no rules, to stop them doing so but I started this Report by saying that we intend to become the champion of the volunteer and community sector.

This does not mean that anyone or any Parish Council has to be part of it. Parish Councils are Elected Bodies in their own right and can retain and use the normal approaches at Local Government levels.

We are there as an addition to this. To provide a focus, a meeting place for all, with a main aim to improve the quality of life for everyone living and working in the M&VCP area.

As you know our main role is to consult, prepare and maintain a Community Plan encapsulating the needs and aspirations of our community residents.

In addition we want to provide the whole community with a strong local voice to ensure that the Area Board and the new Unitary Authority gives proper consideration to the whole community’s views and sets their targets conforming to the community’s priorities.

We want to participate in managing the implementation of the initiatives and monitor and report on progress or non-progress across the Community Area.

M&VCAP needs to comprise of representatives of Town and Parish Councils, mainstream service agencies and voluntary and community sector organisations, even if it is an individual resident who might dip in and out.

In order to ensure that the Community Plan covers all parts of the Community Area we shall need input from everyone, including the doubters who might miss out if their issues are not incorporated. We see the future as a great opportunity for us to shape local decision-making and we hope that everyone will play their part in the future.