

# MINUTES

ITEM NO. 5

**Meeting:** AMESBURY AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Antrobus House, 39 Salisbury Road, Amesbury, SP4 7HH  
**Date:** Tuesday 13 October 2009  
**Start Time:** 7.00pm  
**Finish Time:** 9:05pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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## In Attendance:

### Wiltshire Councillors

Mike Hewitt (Chairman), John Noeken, John Smale (Vice Chairman), Fred Westmoreland and Graham Wright.

### Parish and Town Councillors

G Barnes and T Turner – Allington, F Hedge, R Fisher and I Mitchell – Amesbury, R Brasher – Berwick St James, S Langdon – Durnford, D Healing and M Towle – Durrington, S Banton – Figcheldean, P Fisher – Idmiston and Bourne Valley Alliance, S Stubbs – Newton Tony, S Shepherd - Orcheston, C Slater and P Sweet – Shrewton, R Parry – Steeple Langford, J MacDougall – Steeple Langford and Wylfe, T Cox – Wylfe.

### Partners

Wiltshire Fire & Rescue – Ian Rennie, Peter Newman and James Mahoney  
Wiltshire Police – Inspector Martyn Sweett  
MOD – Bill Dowling and David Marks

### Wiltshire Council Officers

Alan Fiest - Service Director  
Karen Linaker – Community Area Manager

**Members of Public in Attendance:** 14

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<b><u>Agenda Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u></b>	<b><u>Action By</u></b>
1.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introduction</u></p> <p>The Chairman introduced the Board Members, and welcomed everyone to the Amesbury Area Board meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Councillor Ian West – Wiltshire Councillor Bryony Brown – NHS Wiltshire Mark Smith – Wiltshire Council Service Director</p>	
3.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Councillor Mike Hewitt declared a prejudicial interest in item number 10(a) – Community Area Grants. The interest related to the grant application from Winterbourne Parish Council as Cllr Hewitt is a member of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Councillor Graham Wright declared a prejudicial interest in item number 10(a) – Community Area Grants. The interest related to the grant application from Durrington Town Council as Cllr Wright is a member of the Town Council.</p> <p>Both Councillors spoke in support of the grant applications but did not vote.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>That the minutes of the meetings held on 30 June, and 8 September 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendment:</p> <p>The Durrington Town Council representative's name be amended on both sets of minutes to read "D Healing".</p>	
5.	<p><u>Your Local Issues</u></p> <p>Karen Linaker, Community Area Manager, gave an update on the various local issues that had been raised since the last meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There had been a number of concerns relating to speeding and this matter would be addressed under the community speedwatch item.</li> <li>• Speed restrictions on local roads would be considered under the</li> </ul>	

	<p>full scale review of A, B, C and unclassified roads which the council would be undertaking over the next two years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cycle track/footpath from Amesbury to Bulford was being discussed with local landowners.</li> <li>• Inspector Sweett gave an update regarding measures taken to address anti-social behaviour in the area. Neighbourhood policing teams were treating this as one of their priorities. Discussions were taking place with environmental services officers to take action regarding noise nuisance caused by young people in the Central Car Park in Amesbury. It was important for people to report anti-social behaviour in their area so that the police could identify any particular hot-spots.</li> <li>• Bill Dowling from the MoD reported that measures had been taken to deal with the matters raised relating to the Archers Gate Estate and this would continue to be monitored.</li> <li>• Lack of affordable housing was a key priority for Wiltshire Council and this had been taken into account in the development of the Core Strategy document.</li> <li>• Lack of 6<sup>th</sup> form provision in the area was being addressed by the Department for Children and Education and the Community Area Partnership was also undertaking some work on this issue. This matter would also be discussed at the next CAYPIG meeting.</li> <li>• A meeting had been arranged between the Mayor of Amesbury and Wiltshire Council officers to discuss grass cutting and verge maintenance to improve the gateway to the town.</li> <li>• A response had been received from Royal Mail regarding the transfer of delivery services. This was circulated with the agenda for the meeting.</li> <li>• An additional issue was raised relating to the decrease in takings of the Porton and Winterbourne local shops. This was due to road closures in the area. It was agreed that the relevant forms would be sent to the shops to enable them to apply for compensation if appropriate.</li> </ul>	Karen Linaker
6.	<p><u>Health Protection Agency (Porton Down) – New Premises</u></p> <p>Tim Harry (Deputy Director) and Peter Jackson (Deputy Programme Manager) from the Health Protection Agency at Porton Down attended the meeting to present details of the proposals to develop new premises at Porton Down.</p>	

	<p>The following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of the Health Protection Agency (HPA) was to prepare and respond to emergencies including those caused by emerging disease and deliberate release.</li> <li>• The Agency undertook translational research and turned this into practical intervention.</li> <li>• The research included vaccines, diagnostics and detection, therapeutics, decontamination and advice and planning.</li> <li>• Government funding contributed one quarter of the HPA income and the remaining was from external sources.</li> <li>• The current facilities were now outdated and needed major investment. The new facility would provide a safe and modern working environment.</li> <li>• A future site plan layout was displayed and details were given regarding the campus overview and development.</li> <li>• Plans would be submitted to the Dept of Health in April 2010, a full business case would be put forward in 2011 and building would commence in 2013.</li> <li>• Archaeological digs and soil samples were currently being undertaken on the site.</li> <li>• Consultants had been appointed to consider how best to avoid light pollution in the area.</li> <li>• There would be no increase in the numbers of staff on the site but there would be around a 5-10% growth in visitors to the training area.</li> <li>• When the formal planning application was made the deliberations would take place in public and the local community would be consulted in the usual way.</li> <li>• The Bourne Valley Alliance Group of parishes have invited HPA to present details of these redevelopment proposals to their next meeting.</li> <li>• Cllr Westmoreland, as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee would ascertain whether or not the planning application would be considered by the Area Planning Committee or the Strategic Planning Committee.</li> </ul>	Cllr Westmoreland
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7.	<p><u>Community Speed Watch</u></p> <p>Inspector Martyn Sweett updated the Area Board on the Community Speedwatch scheme. The following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community speedwatch presents an opportunity for local people to get involved in road safety. They would work in partnership with the police using a laser device to measure speed. A new co-ordinator had been recruited to assist with this scheme which would in turn help the Wiltshire &amp; Swindon Road Safety Partnership meet its objectives in terms of the road safety strategy.</li> <li>• The scheme was not about speed enforcement which could only be conducted by Wiltshire Police. Community Speedwatch was about raising awareness in the local area.</li> <li>• A minimum of six volunteers was required to start and take part in a scheme.</li> <li>• A local safety assessment would then take place which would take about three to four weeks. Then training would be undertaken with the volunteers to enable them to use the equipment provided.</li> <li>• If necessary repeat offenders could be dealt with by the Police once they had been notified by the volunteers.</li> <li>• The communities of Durrington and Bulford were almost at the stage of starting a community speedwatch scheme.</li> <li>• There would be no cost to the Parish concerned as the training and equipment would be provided free of charge.</li> <li>• Some concerns were expressed about individuals being reported to the police by the volunteers. The feeling was that this type of evidence was not sufficient to obtain a prosecution. Inspector Sweett explained that further evidence would be obtained by the police to enable them to issue a fixed penalty notice if appropriate.</li> <li>• Volunteers would be covered by the police indemnity insurance, following completion of their training and on agreeing to abide by a specific code of conduct.</li> <li>• The scheme would not be appropriate for all villages as some may require speed reduction measures.</li> <li>• Villages could join together to form a speedwatch scheme if they could get six volunteers and agree on suitable locations.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other concerns were expressed by local residents in relation to the speed limits on a number of roads in the community area which should be reviewed as these were not helping to ensure sensible, safe driving. In response to this the Service Director explained that over the next two years there would be a full scale review of the speed restrictions on all A, B, C and unclassified roads in the county. He further explained that Area Boards and parish and town councils would be consulted upon during that review process.</li> <li>• Anyone interested in the community speedwatch scheme should contact Karen Linaker, on 07917 751728 e- mail <a href="mailto:Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk">Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk</a></li> </ul>	
8.	<p><u>Updates from Representatives</u></p> <p>The Area Board received the following updates:</p> <p>(a) <u>Cllr G Wright</u></p> <p>Councillor G Wright thanked the Police for their help in dealing with anti-social behaviour in Durrington. Cllr Wright had visited Larkhill Camp and informed the Board of plans for community engagement in the area.</p> <p>A date for the first meeting of the Durrington Sports Centre had been agreed.</p> <p>The AGM of the Stonehenge Community Area Partnership had recently taken place. Andy Williams had been elected as chairman. Priorities were now being set and the 22 local Parishes would be involved in this process. Thematic groups had been formed.</p> <p>(b) <u>Cllr M Hewitt and Cllr J Smale</u></p> <p>There would be a meeting of the local CAYPIG on 8 December 2009 – this date was being revised, as this was the date of the next Area Board meeting. Funding to support young people’s issues and activities was a priority for the community area.</p> <p>(c) <u>Cllr J Noeken</u></p> <p>Cllr Noeken reported that 1,500 submissions had been made regarding the core strategy document. The A303 had a major impact on the Amesbury area and one of the main issues was the lack of dualling on parts of the road. Additionally, concerns over the need to maximise units of affordable housing in Wiltshire was a key matter for the core strategy. The full Council would discuss the core strategy at an extraordinary meeting to be held on 10 November 2009.</p> <p>The Council was currently undertaking a workforce transformation project which would mean combining various offices over the next</p>	

	<p>three and a half years. There would be four hubs, one each in Trowbridge, Devizes, Salisbury and Chippenham. The Bourne Hill offices in Salisbury would be completed in March 2010. This project would give significant savings of around £83 million which would be put into frontline services.</p> <p>(c) <u>Cllr F Westmoreland</u></p> <p>Councillor Westmoreland reported that there would be a review of the planning process for Wiltshire Council in six months time and any comments should be submitted to Cllr Westmoreland or a member of the Southern Area Planning Committee. The Parish and Town Councils would be given a formal invitation to comment.</p> <p>The Amesbury Sports Centre Management Committee had now met and would be trying to increase public engagement.</p> <p>(d) <u>Cllr P Fisher (Idmiston Parish Council)</u></p> <p>Mr Fisher expressed concern about road closures at Porton Down Road and on the A30. Two road closures at once could cause significant congestion problems in the area.</p> <p>Alan Feist, Service Director agreed to liaise with the Director of Transport, Environment and Leisure about this issue and inform Cllr Fisher and the Area Board of the position.</p> <p>(e) <u>Cllr S Stubbs (Newton Tony Parish Council)</u></p> <p>Cllr Stubbs asked when action would be taken regarding the traffic lights on Portway as he had raised this matter a year ago.</p> <p>Cllr J Noeken undertook to ensure that a response was provided within the next 24 hours.</p>	<p>Alan Feist</p> <p>Alan Feist</p> <p>Cllr Noeken</p>
9.	<p><u>Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) Service Plans 2010 – 2013</u></p> <p>James Mahoney, Area Manager, reported that a consultation was currently taking place regarding the Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service Plan 2010-2013. The Plan would be finalised by February 2010 and would be live from April 2010. The Plan would outline how the WFRS plans to deliver services more efficiently and effectively to drive down the risk to communities and staff.</p> <p>Anyone who wished to comment on the Service Plan could fill in one of the forms available at the meeting or via the website <a href="http://www.wiltsfire.gov.uk">www.wiltsfire.gov.uk</a></p>	

10.	<p><u>Funding and Grants</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered a report which asked Councillors to consider four applications seeking 2009/10 community area grant funding. The fourth application from Steeple Langford Allotment Trustees was considered as an urgent item for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A number of users with disabilities (or as a consequence of old age) are disadvantaged in using the allotments in their current state.</li> <li>• If the grant was delayed until December the various quotes the applicant has secured for the work would expire leading to the need to secure new quotes which may lead to additional project costs and would delay the works.</li> </ul> <p>Following discussion it was:</p> <p><b><u>Resolved</u> to award the following Community Area Grants:</b></p> <p><b>(1) SPLASH - £2,433 to contribute towards the cost of holiday activities for vulnerable young people and people in need in the Amesbury Area.</b></p> <p><b>(2) Durrington Town Council - £400 to contribute towards the cost of providing disabled access to the Recreation Ground in Durrington.</b></p> <p><b>(3) Winterbourne Parish Council - £1,225 to contribute towards the cost of clearing scrubland on Winterbourne Gunner allotment site and the erection of fencing to provide additional plots and security of the site.</b></p> <p><b>(4) Steeple Langford Allotment Trustees - £5,000 – to fund development work at the local allotment sites at Steeple Langford and Hanging Langford to improve access by elderly and disabled residents through provision of on site water, rabbit proof fencing and communal accessible tools and seating.</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the Area Board would receive a report back on the Steeple Langford allotment scheme as this was an interesting and unusual project.</p> <p>(b) <u>Performance Reward Grant Scheme</u></p> <p>The Community Area Manager explained that a sum of £2.8 million would be available to the 18 Area Boards across Wiltshire over the</p>	Karen Linaker
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	<p>next 2-3 years. This funding was available due to a Local Public Service Agreement with the government that had ended in March 2008. The funding would be made available in three month tranches of £250k and was available for both capital and revenue projects. A guidance pack was available for anyone interested in submitting an application.</p> <p>If anyone wishes to find out more about these grants they should contact Karen Linaker, Community Area Manager on 07917 751728 or e-mail <a href="mailto:Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk">Karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk</a></p>	
11.	<p><u>Future Meeting Date, Evaluation and Close</u></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 8 December 2009 at the Bowman's Centre, Amesbury.</p>	