

**Salisbury District Council Successes Since May 2007**

Since May 2007 the Communications Team has, at each Cabinet meeting, presented a list of the council's achievements over the previous month.

As we approach vesting day, these achievements have been collated into a chronological list covering the whole of the period from May 2007 to February 2009. They cover a diverse range of activities and include work that Salisbury District Council has done in partnership with other organisations as well as services delivered directly by the council.

The list provides a picture of the way that Salisbury District Council has, in its last two years, sought to turn its policies into practical activities that have had a direct impact on the communities of south Wiltshire.

**May - Oct 2007**

Opening of the Golden Way orbital walking and cycling route in June and production of Golden Way map and guide.

Production of updated Salisbury & Wilton Cycle Map.

Salisbury Bike Week - over 150 participants in this year's rides and events.

Agreement reached with WCC to match fund any lottery monies secured towards the Salisbury to Wilton/Alderbury cycle links.

Agreement reached to provide a new Community Transport minibus for Amesbury in partnership with Solstice Park.

Re-routing of Pulseline buses around Salisbury District Hospital site to improve access to newly built wards by public transport.

Launch of the Three Rivers Rail Partnership website [www.threeriversrail.com](http://www.threeriversrail.com) to promote local rail travel.

Helping promote a new 'Footsteps to Fitness' 6-week programme of short health walks being run by Salisbury Walking for Health group.

Changes made to Park and Ride service to improve efficiency whilst saving the Council £90,000 per annum.

Concessionary bus pass use continues to grow. The countywide pass enhances the travel horizons and reduces transport related social exclusion.

Our Place in the Future - national exemplar of how to join-up consultation process.

Started the delivery of 100's of more affordable homes via developments at Archers Gate and Old Sarum.

Conservation Area Appraisals - 12 complete along with consultation and management plans. Quality of work praised by other councils.

Salisbury Vision - subgroups making real progress on Market Place, College and Central Car Park.

Winners of Britain in Bloom (Small City/Large Town Category).

Consultation on refuse options carried out and continuation of weekly refuse collections agreed.

SDC leading on work towards parishing of Salisbury.

Office project consultation and modifications made in light of results.

Appointment of Project Director for the Salisbury Vision.

Acting quickly on the news regarding unitary status in order to ensure that Salisbury is well represented at all meetings.

Free swimming for under 16s offered in school holidays leading to vastly increased numbers of young swimmers.

Changes to booking system for swimming lessons in response to public demand.

Bank Holiday opening for leisure centres.

New improved website - improving access to online services.

Successful prosecution of benefit fraudsters.

Scheme to support elderly and vulnerable in own homes.

Support for the work of the climate change review group.

Hockey, Football and athletics camps provided for school age children.

Support for Sustrans Connect 2 initiative.

Restoration of funding for the arts organizations.

Approval for first development of 'eco-homes'.

Commitment to make Salisbury a 'Fairtrade city'.

Supporting Remembrance Day by providing the City Hall free of charge, supporting the move for a city parade for returning troops.

Financial commitment / investment to upgrade the Fitness Suite at Five Rivers.

Two free park and ride days to mark Alternative Transport Week.

Star Track Athletics' Camp organised by Salisbury District Council and the City of Salisbury Athletics and Running Club.

Publication of free business e-newsletter with information on council services and activities including changes in legislation, planning policies or commercial waste collections and information on grants, business rates, licensing, and opportunities to do business with the council.

Housing Service awarded the Charter Mark for another three years.

Salisbury District Council Inter-Schools' Tennis Doubles Festival held in July. Over 40 children from four schools took part.

Primary school basketball festival held.

Disability forum hosted by Salisbury Shopmobility.

Primary School 'Kwik Cricket' Festival held.

Schools environment day held with over 300 children attending.

Sheltered housing service accredited by The Centre for Sheltered Housing Services (CSHS) under its Code of Practice for delivering a quality service to older and vulnerable people living in sheltered housing schemes.

Six-week recycling awareness campaign run.

**Added November 2007**

Set up partnership Telecare projects (with WCC, PCT and Salisbury hospital) to help elderly and vulnerable people.

Established one-off £50k community fund for projects to help young people in rural and/or deprived areas.

Salisbury third in WWF league table of green cities.

Launched park & ride supervisor service to improve customer care.

Roll out of black box recycling scheme to half of district that does not currently have the scheme.

Salisbury Tourist Information Centre wins city centre management award.

Approved £1.5m expenditure on Market Place as part of Salisbury Vision project.

SDC staff raised nearly £700 for charity so far this year, inc £300 for Wear it Pink.

Launch of Chairman's Faiths in the Community Initiative.

#### **Added January 2008**

Launch of Phase 1 of affordable housing at Duck Lane, Laverstock.

High Five Festival of Netball - in partnership with Salisbury and Avon Valley Sports Partnerships.

Support for International Day for the Disabled through a creative arts event led by Shopmobility.

Community Arts Training event run in partnership across Wiltshire.

'Kids for a Quid' scheme at Tisbury Leisure Centre.

Future play opportunities to be improved thanks to a successful Big Lottery Fund bid of over £200k.

Cycling and walking routes to be improved along A36 thanks to a successful Sustrans bid.

Launch of the 'ZIP' pre-payment system for park and ride service.

#### **Added February 2008**

Funding secured to develop a lottery bid to make improvements in Victoria Park.

Cabinet proposal for lowest council tax rise in seven years.

Mike Slade sports scholarships scheme in its twelfth year and over £1000 handed out to local young people.

Henry Fawcett statue in Market Square now carries a formal 'blue plaque'.

Shopmobility's tenth birthday - over 12,000 users now benefit from the service.

Two successful indoor girl's cricket festivals - for under 13s and under 15s.

2008-9 budget consultation.

Salisbury parishing consultation - 700 responses from residents.

Introduction of the Audit Commission's national fraud initiative.

Successful hosting of BBC TV's Question Time at the City Hall.

Holocaust Memorial Day service.

#### **Added March 2008**

Agreed new car parking charges.

'Love Wiltshire' street scene campaign in partnership with other Wiltshire authorities.

Submission of revised planning application for Bourne Hill, including design brief for the Secret Garden.

Set 2008-9 Budget and associated council tax levels, lowest % increase for seven years.

Support and promote Fairtrade Fortnight.

Launch phase two of major consultation programme for LDF.

Began study into possible redevelopment of the Maltings and Central Car Park site as part of the Salisbury Vision project.

**Added April 2008**

£130,000 general community fund launched and applications being sought from local groups and initiatives.

£50,000 allocated to nine youth projects over and above the general community fund mentioned above.

Bemerton Heath Neighbourhood Centre now on-line thanks to new website.

Wisecards available free of charge to all eligible residents.

District recycling figure hits 30% for the first time.

Free Swimming announced in district's three leisure centres for St George's Day.

Successful 'Faiths in the Community' event - as part of the Chairman's chosen theme for the year.

Publication of 'Sustainable Rural Communities' report following major scrutiny review.

Commencement of city-wide survey into play facilities.

CareConnect - new service charges agreed and implemented.

**Added May 2008**

Completion of first phase of consultation around 'Core Strategy: Preferred Options' document (LDF) and commitment made to carry out an additional period of consultation.

Cabinet endorsement of Salisbury Vision project and approval of Churchfields Project Initiation Document as part of Salisbury Vision and LDF.

First wheeled bins arrive in south Wiltshire as part of the ongoing programme to improve refuse collection and recycling targets in the district.

Provision of an increased grant to Downton Sports Centre and ongoing support to allow them to access alternative funding streams.

Provision of free taster fitness sessions at Five Rivers Leisure Centre and, with partners, the creation of new running groups for women ahead of 'Race for Life'.

Improved customer service via the council's website - the GIS and RSS technologies promoting easier access to information on local councillors, planning applications, conservation sites, listed buildings and recycling sites.

Support to two new 'Friends' groups for Hudson's Field and Queen Elizabeth Gardens and ongoing work as part of Management Plans for these two sites and other green spaces in the city.

**Added June 2008**

Successful outcome for Bourne Hill project following talks with Wiltshire County Council and reports submitted to Implementation Executive.

Commencement of stage 2 consultation for Parishing of Salisbury project.

National award recognising excellence for CareConnect service.

Schools Environment Day.

In partnership, the launch of the first ever Children's Festival as part of this year's Salisbury International Arts Festival.

Reduction in air pollution in the City over the last year.

Organisation of the first disabled football festival.

Improvements announced for Tisbury Leisure Centre and Durrington Pool.

Support for National Bike Week with local initiatives.

**Added July 2008**

Statutory consultation on Salisbury parishing project attracted 3000 responses from city residents.

Salisbury granted Fairtrade City status by the Fairtrade Foundation.

Durrington consultation event on police and council efforts to tackle anti-social behaviour in the town.

Council to provide nearly £24,000 to Age Concern to continue to provide handyperson service to older people and those with a disability in privately rented or owned accommodation.

Working with a local primary school to improve the safety and sustainability of pupils' journey to school by allowing use of a car park as the starting point for a 'walking bus'.

Open day to promote options open to people looking for affordable homes in south Wiltshire.

Awarded over £100,000 to 13 community groups in the first tranche of grants to be made from the new General Community Fund.

**Added August 2008**

Salisbury and Wilton Walking Map praised in a Department of Transport guide for the newly-created Walk England organisation.

Kerbside collection of plastic bottles and cardboard for recycling introduced ahead of schedule in some parts of the district.

International design competition launched to revitalise Market Square as part of the Salisbury Vision.

Salisbury Walking Forum (involving Salisbury District Council and partners) published a Bus Walks leaflet and map showing 17 different bus walks that can be undertaken in the local countryside.

New CAB advice line launched for members Black and Ethnic Minority communities with funding from the council.

Next stage of consultation on Salisbury parishing begun.

Star Track Athletics Course for young people organised by the council and the City of Salisbury Athletics and Running Club.

**Added September 2008**

Council launches new service to provide people facing repossession with free legal advice.

Funding of £100,000 to Salisbury Trust for the Homeless to provide move-on accommodation for vulnerable single homeless people.

Council agrees spend around £100,000 to improve Wilton Market Place.

Further improvements to recycling rates - July saw highest recycle rate yet – 32%.

Over 1,500 children took advantage of summer activities at Tisbury, Five Rivers and Durrington leisure centres.

Over 3,000 people respond to third stage of consultation on the parishing of Salisbury.

**Added October 2008**

Support for Gurkha campaign.

First meeting to discuss setting up Salisbury Community Partnership.

Support for Salisbury Fairtrade Group at the Food and Drink Festival.

Successful implementation of second phase of Local Development Framework consultation.

**Added November 2008**

Wilton Market Place refurbishment schedule amended following public consultation.

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running, the council is praised by the Audit Commission for performing well in its use of resources and providing value for money.

In partnership with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, the council launches its Affordable Warmth campaign to provide advice and assistance to people who are likely to be in fuel poverty.

Council awards nearly £80,000 to 18 local organisations in the second tranche of Local Community Fund.

Major survey of community and voluntary organisations to see how the whole community can help to tackle climate change.

Salisbury District Council, alongside the Implementation Executive, announces the creation of a new city council for Salisbury, which will come into being on 1 April 2009.

Swimming at council swimming pools free for the over 60s from January 2009.

Design competition for the rejuvenation of Salisbury Market Place is launched, with six design teams tasked to come up with design concepts for historic heart of the city.

**Added January 2009**

Launch of free swimming for the over 60s.

Leisure charges reduced to reflect the decrease in VAT.

Design concepts for Market Place rejuvenation are launched for public consultation. Over 1,000 people attend the public exhibition.

New community centre for Bemerton Heath, owned and funded by SDC, opened.

The Christmas Lights switch-on – with saw extra investment from Salisbury District Council – was a huge success.

New mortgage rescue scheme launched by the council to help struggling families keep their homes.

**Added February 2009**

Cashless parking by mobile phone extended to Salisbury railway station.

Climate change action plan produced as a result of council-led workshop.

Kidz Kamp activities now available at leisure centres during half-term holidays.

Two highly successful Holocaust Memorial events run in Salisbury.

Audit Commission finds that SDC exercises tight financial control and that there are no significant weaknesses in council finances that would have an impact on the new Wiltshire Council.