

MINUTES

Meeting: CHIPPENHAM AREA BOARD
Place: Hardenhuish School, Hardenhuish Lane, Chippenham, Wiltshire
Date: Monday 29 June 2009
Start Time: 7.00pm
Finish Time: 8:55pm

Please direct any enquiries on these Minutes to:

Julia Densham (Senior Democratic Services Officer), direct line 01249 706610 or e-mail julia.densham@wiltshire.gov.uk

Papers available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Desna Allen (Chairman), Chris Caswill, Paul Darby, Bill Douglas, Howard Greenman, Peter Hutton, Mark Packard, Nina Phillips, Judy Rooke, Jane Scott, John Thomson (Cabinet Representative)

Service Director

Parvis Khansari (Major Projects)

Officers

Julia Densham (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Steve Milton (Head of Community Governance), Martin Rose (Principle Highways Engineer), Victoria Welsh (Community Area Manager)

Parish and Town Councillors

Alison Butler (Biddestone and Slaughterford Parish Council), D Liddell (Sutton Benger Parish Council), Alex McCracken (Chippenham Without Parish Council), Sherry Meadows (Stanton St Quinton Parish Council), Andrew Noblett (Leader - Chippenham Town Council), Lesley Palmer (Grittleton Parish Council), Brian Patterson (Chippenham Town Council), Mary Pile (Chippenham Town Council), Harry Purdon (Chippenham Town Council), Ray Stockall (Christian Malford Parish Council), Fred Winup (Castle Combe)

Partners

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Kate Pain
Wiltshire Police – Sergeant Allan George
Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service – Group Manager Iain Hunter
NHS Wiltshire – Bryony Brown
Chippenham and Villages Community Area Partnership (ChAP) – Jane Clark

Members of Public in Attendance: 44

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
1.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Chippenham Area Board, thanking Hardenhuish School for the use of their hall and the attendance of the Head Teacher.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were no apologies.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Introducing the Area Boards and Making it Work</u></p> <p>A short film outlining the principles behind the new Area Board was played followed by an explanation from the Community Area Manager on her role, the Community Area Grant Scheme, the Chippenham Area profile and the Keep in Touch sign-up sheets.</p> <p>This was followed by round-table discussions on the key local issues as listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The large council tax increase that affected the newly formed Chippenham Without parish would have been better phased in gradually. • It was important that the Area Board worked alongside the Chippenham and Villages Community Area Partnership (ChAP) that produced a master plan for long-term ambitions and also included short-term 'wins' to enthuse the community. • Anti-social behaviour and limited parking had de-energised the Chippenham town centre. • The Area Board's success was considered to hinge upon a high level of support from local residents and the inclusion of local schools as contributors. • On-street parking blocked access ways particularly during the school drop-off and pick-up times. • The condition of adopted roads and pavements was considered poor even after repairs had been made. • Community Centres should be included in new housing developments to provide youth facilities. • Youth issues included the requirement that those still in education unable to earn money had to pay adult prices that had possibly led to the increased use of cheap alcohol rather than more expensive 	

	<p>entertainments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern was expressed at the traffic congestion outside the Sheldon School with the suggestion that the ward was too large. • The introduction of the Sixth Form Centre at the Sheldon School had increased the use of the local roads as 'rat-runs' and raised issues of pedestrian safety. The arrangement along Dunch Lane near George Ward School in Melksham was a model that could be adopted. • Villages suffered reduced facilities with the on-going closure of post offices and pubs. • A cohesive youth strategy that encompassed rural and urban facilities was required. 	
5.	<p><u>Role of Community Area Partnership and Community (ChAP)</u></p> <p>Jane Clark, Chair of the Chippenham and Villages Community Area Partnership (ChAP), gave an update on the current work of the partnership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main task was to update the original Community Area Plan created in 2005. This was done via a leaflet drop, survey cards, local events including 'Opportunity Knocks', a community shop and parish meetings. The process was still underway and an invitation was extended to anyone wishing to contribute more information. • 'New Chapter' had been working with the town council and the Civic Society to study the traffic management and the street scene in Chippenham. • All those who had contributed information were thanked. • Councillor Scott informed the meeting that pupils at Kings Lodge School had explored the needs / desires of the children in the town and had passed this information to ChAP. <p>DECISION: That pupils and their teacher to be invited to the next meeting to talk about their findings.</p>	Victoria Welsh
6.	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p>Inspector Kate Pain from the Wiltshire Police first congratulated the members on their election and then gave an update on the current neighbourhood policing in Chippenham. She apologised for the omission of the Chippenham Villages from the report. Inspector Pain pointed out that crime statistics would be specific to each area and that, in future, abstraction figures were to be included.</p>	

	<p>funding application for the G3 pitch.</p> <p>DECISION: The Chair of the Chippenham Town Council to chase the decision.</p> <p>c) Martin Rose, Principle Highway Engineer, introduced the Webbington Road Pedestrian Crossing Improvements Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns had been raised by local people and councillors over pedestrian safety and traffic speeds; • it was agreed that the visibility issue required reduced traffic speeds; • twin speed cushions would calm traffic that allowed pedestrians to cross safely; and • the cost would be £50,000. <p>Mr Greenman urged for a speedy resolution given the total length of time that this issue had taken to be addressed.</p> <p>DECISION: The option to provide an informal crossing point and associated localised traffic calming near Rumble Dene (at the point where the footpath linking Pewsham Lock to Bolts Croft crosses Webbington Road) was agreed unanimously by the Committee.</p>	<p>Councillor Andrew Noblett</p> <p>Martin Rose</p>
8.	<p><u>Election of Representatives</u></p> <p>The following appointments to outside bodies were made:</p> <p>Chippenham and Villages Community Area Partnership Mr Mark Packard</p> <p>Chippenham Borough Lands Charity Mr Peter Hutton</p> <p>Chippenham Area Youth Issues Group (CAYPIG) All members to be invited to meetings – dates to be emailed to the committee</p> <p>Kingsley Road Community Hall Association Mrs Desna Allen and Mrs Nina Phillips</p> <p>Chippenham Vision Mr Chris Caswill</p> <p>The Chairman also asked for two volunteers, one parish councillor and one unitary councillor, to sit on the Area Board Co-ordinating group. Councillor Lesley Palmer from Grittleton Parish Council and Mr Paul Darby volunteered. The meeting to take place in mid-August and</p>	<p>Richard Williams</p> <p>Victoria Welsh</p>

	the date to be advised.	
9.	<u>Minutes</u> DECISION: The minutes of the meeting on 16 June 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.	
10.	<u>Evaluation and Close</u> The Chairman thanked all those who had attended and asked that the evaluation sheets be completed.	