

Democratic Services  
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# Minutes

**Meeting of** : City Area (Community) Committee  
**Meeting held in** : The Alamein Suite, City Hall, Salisbury  
**Date** : Tuesday 13 November 2007  
**Commencing at** : 6.00 pm

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**Present:**

Councillor M J Osment (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs C R Hill (Vice Chairman)

Councillors Mrs E A Chettleburgh, P M Clegg, B E Dalton, J M English, S J Howarth, J C Robertson, P W L Sample, Miss M A Tomlinson and J M Walsh

**Apologies:** Councillors K A Cardy, I C Curr, S R Fear, Dr H McKeown, A C Roberts, I R Tomes and A A Thorpe

**40. Public Questions/Statement Time:**

Mr C Duller submitted a question regarding the South Wiltshire Area Grants (SWAG) scheme. A copy of this question, together with the response provided by the Chairman, are attached at Appendix 1 to the minutes.

**41. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:**

There were none.

**42. Minutes:**

**Resolved:** that subject to the word 'statue' being replaced with 'sculpture representing the nativity' in Minute 39 (Nativity Scene on the Guildhall, Salisbury), the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on 2 October 2007 (previously circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**43. Declarations of Interest:**

There were none.

**44. Chairman's Announcements:**

The Chairman informed the Committee that the special meeting of the City Area Community Committee on 11 December 2007 would be a workshop session focussing on Parishing the City, and not a public meeting.



Awarded in:  
Housing Services  
Waste and Recycling Services



**45. Bemerton Ward Plan:**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Principal Community Development Officer. Members thanked officers and all other individuals and associations involved in the development of the Ward Plan for all their hard work. Members expressed their gratitude to Amber Skyring and wished her well in her future career.

**Resolved:** to approve the plan for endorsement.

**46. Village Hall Grants Scheme Applications 2008/09:**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Principal Community Development Officer. Members were informed that the Harnham Memorial Hall was used to maximum capacity but was in need of repair.

**Resolved:** that

- (1) to approve in principle the above application;
- (2) to agree in principle to allocate £1,429 from the 08/09 budget to ensure that the projects can be put forward to the March 08 Village Hall Grants Panel for potential approval.

**47. Update on Parishing the City:**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Legal and Property Services.

**Resolved:** that the report be noted.

**48. Revised Air Quality Management Area- Central Salisbury, London and Wilton Roads:**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Environmental Services. A Member suggested that air quality information could be reported on the Council's website for the benefit of people with respiratory problems such as asthma.

**Resolved:**

- (1) to approve the orders designating air quality management areas on Wilton Road and London road as referred to in paragraph 6.3 of the officer's report, and vary the existing five individual orders to form one Air Quality Management Area for the whole city centre;
- (2) to instruct officers to progress the development of proposals for improving air quality in the city, to form the basis for a report back to this committee in due course.

**49. Salisbury Vision final document: recommendations to Cabinet**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Salisbury Vision Project Director. Members raised the following points relating to the consultant's final document:

- More detail was required on transportation. In particular the Vision should explore the possibility of introducing electric vehicles to reduce reliance on cars and buses, as well as adapting the layout of roads and pavements to make different users (motorists, cyclists and pedestrians) share the streets thus improving traffic flow and reducing accident rates.
- The connection from Wilton Road to Churchfields Road (development strategy project 12, point f)) should be removed, as the construction of a bridge would be unrealistic, especially given the proposed redevelopment of Churchfields.
- There was concern that the development of six storey buildings would break the 40-foot building rule in the City.
- There was also concern that the proposed redevelopment of the Friary should be handled sensitively, and it was noted that many residents of the Friary would only engage with consultation if they were canvassed at home.
- The Vision should explicitly mention commitment to tackling climate change
- The closure of city centre car parks should be accompanied by improvements to the public transport infrastructure to ensure there are no detrimental effects on businesses and the community
- Any possibility resiting of the War Memorial should be handled extremely sensitively

**Resolved:** to recommend to Cabinet that it consider the above comments.

**50. Matters, if any, which by reason of special circumstances the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency**

Councillor Dalton expressed concern about the lack of notice provided by Wiltshire County Council about proposed changes to rights of way at St Anne's Gate.

*The meeting closed at 8:05 pm  
Members of the public present: 6*

### Question submitted by Mr C Duller, dated 12 November 2007

“Dear Chairman,

Could the public be told why SWAG grants are taking several months to be heard and allocated as very often the monies requested are sorely needed. In addition to that could the public be informed via Salisbury Journal of projects that have been so assisted, so that others know when and how to apply. At the moment it seems only groups with representation on the Council get their pleas heard and supported.

Yours sincerely,  
Colin H Duller.”

### Chairman’s response to Mr C Duller

As you are aware, the Council offers SWAG grants as a supplement to all the other allocations it must provide by statute. In order for the Council to make informed decisions about the eligibility of proposals, the application process is time consuming and involves a number of stages.

SWAG grants are determined by the area committees in three tranches. Once an application has been submitted, the relevant technical officer prepares a report for the SWAG review panel to consider when it reviews the application. The review group then makes its recommendation to the area committee, and the application is usually determined at the next available area committee meeting. This process takes approximately three months. If the area committee is minded to approve an application, the technical officer then writes to the applicant setting out the sum offered and the conditions of acceptance of the grant. The applicant has one month to complete and return the form accepting the conditions. Upon receipt of this documentation a cheque is raised and sent to the applicant. This process can take up to four weeks, so that from the deadline for submission of applications to an organisation receiving a grant can take up to four months. Applicants are advised of this timescale when they make their initial application.

The Council is exploring the possibility of promoting SWAG, but information on the application process is already available on the council’s website and upon request from the Democratic Services Unit.

A wide of range of organisations receive SWAG grants, and relatively few have any connection with Salisbury District Council.