

MINUTES

Meeting: MALMESBURY AREA BOARD
Place: Malmesbury Town Hall, Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wiltshire,
SN16 9BZ
Date: Thursday 2 July 2009
Start Time: 7.00pm
Finish Time: 9:10pm

Please direct any enquiries on these Minutes to:

Alexa Smith (Democratic Services Officer), Tel: 01249 706612 or (e-mail)
alexa.smith@wiltshire.gov.uk

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

In Attendance:

James Gray MP

Wiltshire Councillors

Simon Killane (Vice Chairman), Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, John Thomson
(Chairman)

Town and Parish Councillors

Cllr Catherine Doody (Malmesbury Town Council - Town Mayor), Cllr Patrick Goldstone (Malmesbury Town Council - Deputy Town Mayor), Cllr William Blake (Malmesbury Town Council), Cllr Paul Dove (Malmesbury Town Council), Cllr Ray Sanderson (Malmesbury Town Council), Cllr Martyn Snell (Malmesbury Town Council), Cllr Charles Vernon (Malmesbury Town Council), Cllr Andrew Woodcock (Malmesbury Town Council)

Cllr Ellen Blacker (Dauntsey Parish Council), Cllr Simon Burne (Charlton Parish Council), Cllr John Cull (Lea and Cleverton Parish Council), Cllr George Lyneham (Luckington and Alderton Parish Council), Cllr Terry Mockler (Hankerton Parish Council), Cllr Martin Rea (Sherston Parish Council), Cllr Graham Thorne (Minety Parish Council), Cllr Vivian Vines (Dauntsey Parish Council), Cllr Mark Wilkins (Charlton Parish Council)

Officers

Miranda Gilmour - Malmesbury Community Area Manager
Jacqui White - Service Director Shared Services and Customer Care

Julia Densham - Senior Democratic Services Officer
Alexa Smith - Democratic Services Officer

Partners

Wiltshire Police - Inspector Steve Cox, Sergeant Martin Alvis,
Malmesbury & the Villages Community Area Partnership - Alison Cross-Jones
(Chairman)

Members of Public in Attendance: 63

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
1.	<p><u>Chair's Welcome and Introduction</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Malmesbury Area Board. The Chairman introduced the Wiltshire councillors, the service director, the community area manager and the democratic services officers present.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Andrew Carnegie (Malmesbury Town Council); Cllr Andrew Woodcock (Malmesbury Town Council); Cllr John Tremayne (Easton Grey Parish Council); Michael Franklin (Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service) and Jo Howes (NHS Wiltshire).</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The Chairman approved and signed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2009 to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Malmesbury Area Board.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
5. a)	<p><u>Introduction to the Area Boards and Making it Work for You</u></p> <p>The meeting watched a DVD which introduced the area boards. The DVD will be available on the Wiltshire Council website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards or from the community area manager.</p> <p>The community area manager introduced herself and spoke on the following:</p>	

5. b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the community area manager; • The process of getting local issues resolved; • The Community Area Grants Scheme; • £22,353 had been awarded to Malmesbury Area Board for the current year; • £1 million had been further designated for the next two years to address local priorities across Wiltshire through the Local Area Agreement; and • The area profile which obtained robust local data, highlighted important issues and aided evidence based decision making. <p>The community area manager invited those present to contact her with any questions and to sign-up to a regular local update if they had not already done so.</p> <p><u>Question One - There was a need to improve public conveniences in Malmesbury town centre. As Malmesbury Town Council had stated they had insufficient funds for the project, could they be leapfrogged and Malmesbury Area Board approached directly?</u></p> <p>The Chairman responded that the community area manager would work with Malmesbury Town Council on this issue.</p> <p>DECISION: Simon Killane was appointed to lead the investigation of funding for improvement to public conveniences in Malmesbury town centre.</p> <p><u>Question Two - Why was an area board needed when we have an elected Malmesbury Town Council? Was it not a waste of public money?</u></p> <p>With the transition to a single Wiltshire Council, concern had been raised over the former districts becoming too remote. The Chairman explained area boards enabled local people to have a say in how £830 million public funds were spent on their behalf and that officers and councillors would be brought to account. All accounts for Wiltshire Council were available to the public on the Wiltshire Council website.</p> <p><u>Question Three - Was area board grant funding equitable county-wide?</u></p> <p>The Chairman replied there was basic funding of £25,000 for each area board. Additional funding depended upon an area's population, sparsity and deprivation. The community area manager underlined the larger picture of unlocking funding beyond the grant scheme by working with partner</p>	Simon Killane
-------	--	---------------

	<p>organisations.</p> <p><u>Question Four - Was there a future for parish councils with area boards and what would their powers be?</u></p> <p>The Chairman confirmed Wiltshire Council was committed to parishes and pointed out this was why the parishing of Salisbury had taken place. Item 7 on the agenda asked for updates from parish councils and this was to be a regular item. The degree of involvement would be determined by the parish, with opportunities to take on roles, for some assets to be distributed to parishes and the parish steward scheme continued to be funded by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p><u>Question Five - Where would Malmesbury Area Board meet in the future?</u></p> <p>The Chairman stated Malmesbury School was expected to be the next venue. Meetings in the villages would be considered to ensure as many people as possible had the opportunity to attend.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Role of Malmesbury & the Villages Community Area Partnership (M&VCAP) and Community Plan</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Alison Cross-Jones and Peter Gilchriest to the meeting.</p> <p>Alison Cross-Jones, the Chairman of M&VCAP, introduced and provided an update on the Community Area Partnership and the Community Plan. A successful community event had been held in April and the Partnership aimed to hold a bigger event in 2010. The Community Plan had been audited and an increased number of people had engaged with or become members of the Partnership. Three main project teams were noted: the rural broadband team, the community transport team and the Community Plan team.</p> <p>The area board received a presentation from Peter Gilchriest regarding the M&VCAP Community Plan. This covered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of how data had been collected and analysed for the Plan; • Limited response rate of the survey as it had been completed by 3% of households; • Limited engagement with the 18-35 age group; • The importance of transport as a local issue; • The surprising absence of education, health and Wiltshire Council itself as raised local issues; • 70% of those surveyed valued the rurality of the local 	

	<p>area; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 750 copies of the Plan would be printed, with copies distributed to all town and parish councils and the document made available on the M&VCAP website. <p>M&VCAP invited the public to attend their Annual General Meeting on 15 July 2009 at Malmesbury Town Hall. Arrival from 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start.</p> <p>Students from Malmesbury School presented their contribution to the Community Plan. Year 9 students had conducted a school survey and identified the local issues considered important to young people after a students-only area board meeting had been held. Bus services were highlighted as a main issue. Copies of the survey were made available at the meeting and on request by sending an email to Malmesbury School.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the volunteers for their valuable information and hard work. The Chairman asked the community area manager how the information would be taken forward. M&VCAP had allocated the survey a double page spread in the Community Plan. The community area manager asked the students as part of their analysis to identify specific issues from the survey to be addressed within the community area.</p> <p>DECISION: Specific local issues from the Malmesbury School survey to be identified and relevant issues sheets completed.</p> <p>Charlotte Thompspon, Assistant Head Teacher, commented the school visit had proved productive for the students and a welcome engagement with the area board. A second students-only area board meeting was proposed.</p> <p>DECISION: Malmesbury School to invite the board back to the school.</p>	<p>Students from Malmesbury School, Miranda Gilmour</p> <p>Malmesbury School</p>
7.	<p><u>Updates from Town and Parish Councils and Other Partners</u></p> <p>As a representative on the Executive Committee of the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils, Cllr Charles Vernon of Malmesbury Town Council invited individuals to get in touch by email or in writing if they had any issues they would like raised with the group.</p>	
7. a)	<p>Inspector Steve Cox described the make up of policing in</p>	

	<p>the local area. Each area had a dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team and a Community Beat Manager to handle ongoing issues. There were three officers for non Neighbourhood Policing Team matters and a further twelve officers able to support if necessary.</p> <p>Inspector Steve Cox updated on the issues below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to combat anti social behaviour in the town centre had proved highly successful with no reports of nuisance individuals of late and four bans on individuals made through the proactive pub watch; • Much partnership working on Station Road Car Park had taken place. There had been heavy police presence and to date no crimes had been committed. Clear concern about excessive noise was acknowledged. Wiltshire Police looked to have a third meeting with Wiltshire Council in the near future. The public were asked to continue updating Wiltshire Police on this issue; <p>DECISION: Simon Killane appointed as lead Wiltshire councillor to work with the police over the Station Road Car Park issue and to engage with partners and local people to find suitable multi-agency solutions.</p> <p>DECISION: Inspector Steve Cox to write to James Gray MP via the Chief Constable of Wiltshire Constabulary regarding acceptable vehicle noise levels. James Gray MP would take up the issue with the Home Secretary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Speed Watch had been brought into operation because of Malmesbury Pilot Area Board; • There had been concerns of persons trespassing on the gravel pits in the Ashton Keynes area to go swimming in the lakes. The Inspector spoke about the significant risk of death, especially when those involved had been drinking; and • Theft of building materials in rural areas. Three males had been arrested for stealing materials from Oaksey School. <p>Contact details for the Community Beat Manager were available from the Wiltshire Police website, www.wiltshire.police.uk.</p>	<p>Simon Killane</p> <p>Inspector Steve Cox</p>
7. b)	The written update from NHS Wiltshire was noted.	
8.	<u>Your Local Issues</u>	

	<p>The community area manager introduced the process of dealing with local issues. A community “issues sheet” was available from www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards , an issue could be submitted online or a form could be requested from the community area manager. Issues were to be of public concern, rather than an individual’s one-off service failure.</p> <p>It was explained that issues would be addressed outside the area boards through partnership working. It was acknowledged that some issues would not be resolvable. Every issue received would be recorded and published on the Wiltshire Council website. Issues had not been carried forward from the pilot phase of area boards because the issues raised had fed into the Community Plan. The community area manager invited anybody who felt an issue remained live to submit an issues sheet.</p> <p>Sergeant Martin Alvis updated the meeting on the Community Speed Watch project which emerged from the pilot phase of area boards. The scheme helped people reduce speeding traffic through their community. It required a minimum of five volunteers aged over eighteen who were committed to the project in the long term. Community Speed Watch already operated successfully in Dauntsey and there was the potential to roll it out elsewhere in the area.</p> <p>The meeting broke into small groups for round table discussions on local issues. The Chairman asked for an issue to be raised from each table, as listed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road maintenance and potholes on rural roads; • Communication and the delivery of information to those without internet access. John Noeken, cabinet member for BMP, ICT, HR, Procurement and Customer Services will be attending the September area board and might be able to contribute to how customers access Wiltshire Council services; <p>DECISION: M&VCAP would investigate alternative access arrangements for those without internet access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling of commercial waste. A contractor is needed to collect all waste for financial viability. Multi bin/dual bin lorries are required; • Air to air conditioning/heating system required by Malmesbury Town Hall to moderate temperatures throughout the year; <p>DECISION:</p>	<p>M&VCAP</p> <p>Toby Sturgis to</p>
--	--	--

	<p>Toby Sturgis appointed as lead Wiltshire councillor for investigation of funding for an air conditioning/heating system in Malmesbury Town Hall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creation of a more attractive pedestrian shopping environment in Malmesbury town centre, as seen in Tetbury; <p>DECISION: Alistair Cunningham, Service Director for Economy & Enterprise, would be invited to attend Malmesbury Area Board to discuss initiatives to support town centre regeneration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public transport, particularly bus services; • Traffic, particularly speeding; • Planning enforcement and flooding; • Public transport and connecting the villages and facilities; and • Bus shelters are required in the town centre. 	<p>meet with Carbon Trust</p> <p>John Thomson</p>
9.	<p><u>Election of Representatives</u></p> <p>The committee agreed to the following election of representatives to outside bodies:</p> <p>Activity Zone Leisure Centre Advisory Committee - Simon Killane Malmesbury Community Trust - Carole Soden and John Thomson Malmesbury Youth Issues Group (CAYPIGS) - Simon Killane and John Thomson</p> <p>The Chairman announced that a decision had been made to dissolve the Malmesbury Conservation Area Liaison Group, but to invite the members who formed the group and other interested parties to form a Task and Finish Group under the Malmesbury Area Board, which in the first instance were invited to undertake a consultation on the draft Conservation Management Plan for Malmesbury. Thereafter there would be other opportunities to take forward projects.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked members of the Malmesbury Conservation Area Liaison Group who had recently worked with officers at the North Wiltshire District Council to produce the draft Conservation Management Plan for Malmesbury and over a number of years had advised on the implementation of local conservation schemes within the town.</p>	

	<p>John Thomson and Toby Sturgis volunteered to join the Task and Finish Group together with the previous members of the Malmesbury Conservation Area Liaison Group, with support from Judy Enticknap, Senior Conservation Officer, and her team at Wiltshire Council. A presentation on the draft Conservation Management Plan would be made at the 16 September area board meeting to launch a two month consultation period.</p> <p>DECISION: Judy Enticknap to coordinate set up of Task and Finish Group.</p>	Judy Enticknap
10.	<p><u>Future Meeting Dates</u></p> <p>A sheet of provisional calendar dates for the Malmesbury Area Board was provided at the meeting. The next meeting was to be held on 16 September 2009 at 7.00pm, with refreshments from 6.30pm, at Malmesbury School.</p>	
11.	<p><u>Evaluation and Close</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked those who attended and asked for an evaluation form of the meeting to be completed.</p>	