

MINUTES

Meeting: MELKSHAM AREA BOARD
Place: Melksham Town Hall, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6ES.
Date: Wednesday 1 July 2009
Start Time: 7.00pm
Finish Time: 8:55pm

Please direct any enquiries on these Minutes to:

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In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Jonathon Seed (Chairman), Rod Eaton (Vice-Chairman), Mark Griffiths, Jon Hubbard, Steve Petty,
Roy While, Dick Tonge (Cabinet Representative).

Parish and Town Councillors

G Collet (Poulshot PC), Sally Oliphant (Bulkington PC), John Lambert & E Gale-Sides (Atworth PC), J Sonze (Seend PC), P Bowyer & Brian Smyth (Semington PC), Judith Buxton Dean & Cindy Bullen (Steeple Ashton PC), G Verschoyle (Great Hinton PC), M Link & Jerry Wickham (Keevil PC), Dawn Cuthbert (Broughton Gifford PC), Geoff Hyatt (Steeple Ashton PC), George McDonic (Gt Hinton PC), M Mills (Melksham Without PC), Richard Wiltshire, Sheila Wilkinson & John Crook (Melksham TC).

Partners

Wiltshire Police – Dave Hobman
Wiltshire Police – Mel Rolph

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 Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Melksham Area Board, he advised the board that he was very encouraged by the turnout and wished to thank all the Town, Parish and partner representatives who were in attendance.</p> <p>The Chairman made the point that Melksham and it's parishes now had a real opportunity to influence local democracy.</p> <p>The Chairman introduced Abbi Gutierrez, (Melksham Community Area Manager) and Dick Tonge, (Wiltshire Council cabinet member) who was in attendance for this meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman then requested that all the Wiltshire Council members in attendance introduced themselves to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were no apologies.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Personal Interest: Mr Rod Eaton - Deputy Mayor of Melksham, will view all items and issues with an open mind.</p> <p>Personal Interest: Mr Jon Hubbard – Melksham Town councillor, has voted at Town Council meetings on the Kings Street lorry park issue, will view this item with an open mind.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Minutes of the 16 June 2009</u></p> <p>The minutes were signed off as a correct record of the meeting.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Introducing the Area Boards and Making it Work for You</u></p> <p>The Melksham Community Area Manager gave a brief introduction as to the work of the Area Board and her role and how the area grant scheme would be operated, she also gave a brief overview of the Melksham area profile.</p>	

	<p>A short film was then shown which further set out the aspirations for the Area Board.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Area Board Budget</u></p> <p>The Chairman outlined the budget that the Melksham Area Board would have to work with, which was £49,762 allocated by Wiltshire Council for the current Financial Year. This would be reduced to 75% of that figure because the board would be starting it's work in July, so it actually would have £37,321 for the rest of the financial year. Of this money up to 20% may be spent on the administration of the Community Area Partnership subject to the approval of the Board.</p> <p>The balance of the budget would be available as Community Area Grants of up to £ 5000 each. These projects would need to reflect local priorities and applicants would need to provide 50 % match funding for awards of over £1000.</p> <p>The Chairman also advised that Melksham Town Council had pledged £7.5 k to the Board and Melksham Without Town Council a further £3k towards the allocation of funding for a new Community Area Partnership.</p> <p>Approximately £2000 had been spent to date in establishing the Community Area Partnership, he then made the point that the board would have real spending power and that it was important how the board used this money.</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>That all spending from 1 July, less the money already spent on the establishment of the CAP, would be approved by the Board.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Role of Community Area Partnership and Community Plan and future challenges</u></p> <p>John Crook, (Melksham Town Clerk) updated the board on the Melksham Community Area Partnership and the refresh of the Community plan for Melksham.</p> <p>John Crook made the point that he was keen to look at any issues that any person or group had concerning the Melksham Community Area Partnership or the Community plan for Melksham.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked John Crook for his update.</p>	

8.	<p><u>Updates from Town and Parish Councils and other Partners</u></p> <p>The Town Council, Parish Councils and partners were given the opportunity to give any updates, it was noted that representatives from the Primary Care Trust and Wiltshire Fire Service were unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.</p> <p>Points made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Wiltshire Police were keen to play their part in making the Melksham Area Board a success. • That the voluntary sector would be key players if the partnership was to succeed. • That this was an exciting time for partnership working. • That all partners stood to gain from a successful and co-operative Community Area Board and Community Area Partnership. 	
9.	<p><u>Your Local Issues</u></p> <p>Niki Lewis (Service Director) advised the meeting of the process of how local issues would be addressed, full details of this were included in the welcome pack given to all attendees.</p> <p>Neil Ward from Wiltshire Council and Rob Williams from Cowlin Construction gave an update on the Melksham Oak Community School project.</p> <p>Points made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That it was hoped there would be enhanced community access to the school's facilities both sporting and academic. • That a good deal of work had gone into ensuring that the access roads into and out of the school were good, with dedicated cycle ways and a reduced speed limit. • That the project was well on schedule and that the school should be handed over to Wiltshire Council in early 2010. <p>The Chairman thanked Neil Ward and Rob Williams for their</p>	

	<p>updates.</p> <p>Other local issues raised on the night.</p> <p>The new Wiltshire Council Planning Department's call in procedure – Town Council and many parishes unhappy with the new call in procedure, this issue will be discussed at a future board meeting.</p> <p>The re-locating of the King Street lorry park - this issue will be discussed at a future board meeting when further information is obtained as to possible sites for relocation.</p> <p>The A350 link road and the future of leisure facilities at Bowerhill with the potential loss of two sports pitches and a sports pavilion - this issue will be discussed at a future board meeting when further information is obtained from Wiltshire Council Planning Department.</p> <p>Traffic calming in some of the local villages – it was suggested that Keevil and Steeple Ashton villages meet up to discuss ways of tackling this issue.</p> <p>Community Transport – Seend PC, the future of the Seend shuttle bus. Will the new Wiltshire Council continue to fund repairs to the bus as Wiltshire County Council had done in the past. Dick Tonge (Wiltshire Council) advised that a review of community transport had just been undertaken to look at such issues.</p> <p>Manor School, Melksham – limited free parking at Lowbourne car park to accommodate parents at pick up/drop off times.</p> <p>'Off 'and 'On' road Parking enforcement including Church Street 'On' road parking issues.</p> <p>Melksham Railway Station – to influence future services with more trains using the station without cost to council taxpayers.</p> <p>Semington and Spa Roads – alleged speeding traffic.</p>	<p>Abbi Gutierrez to follow up on local issues raised on the night for inclusion on future agendas.</p>
10.	<p><u>Election of Representatives</u></p> <p>Mr Roy While was elected as representative to the Melksham and Villages Community Area Partnership.</p> <p>Mr Mark Griffiths and Mr Jon Hubbard were elected as</p>	

	representatives to the Melksham Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group.	
11.	<u>Future Meeting Dates</u> The next meeting of the Melksham Area Board would be held on Wednesday 23 September 2009 at a venue to be confirmed.	Abbi Gutierrez to report back to Mr Jonathon Seed the venue for the next meeting
12.	<u>Evaluation and Close</u> The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and making the first meeting such a success. All attendees were encouraged to complete evaluation forms before leaving the meeting.	