

Town Council Report to Area Board 5th November 2009

1 Museum & Information Centre

- 1.1 **Textile and Weaving Festival**, runs at Trowbridge Museum until 14th November
- 1.2 **Cultural Olympiad**, we are preparing to celebrate with a Dance festival in 2010.
- 1.3 **Visit Wiltshire** – Following questions raised about the financing of Visit Wiltshire we have met with chief Executive Alun Williams, who assured us that whilst in the past much of the funding was from South Wilts and appeared to give a Southern bias to publicity material, in future there would be a better balance across the county.

2 Community Services

- 2.1 **Future Jobs Fund** – We are working with the Department of Work and Pensions and Wiltshire Council to secure funding for additional trainees on our successful Sports Coaching programme – Active Trowbridge.
- 2.2 **Playbuilder Project** – WC have confirmed that £75,000 is allocated to the Innox Road/Stallards site. We are keen to see this development come to fruition.
- 2.3 **Market Town Awards** – At Wootton under Edge on 24th September, Trowbridge was awarded the Innovation Award and also the South West overall award.
- 2.4 **Town Council Supplement** – The next one is being published in the Wiltshire Times on 27th November 2009. and will feature the Christmas Switch On event.

3 Town Development

- 3.1 **Transforming Trowbridge** - The Town Council has asked Wiltshire Council to undertake a review of officer responsibilities with the aim of replacing the joint Vision Director role covering both Trowbridge and Chippenham with two separate roles to cover each of these Strategically Significant Towns and therefore equity with the position regarding officer support to Salisbury where there is a single dedicated Vision Director.
Brantano Shoes, New Look and Next are all now open on Bythesea Road and plans for the new Sainsbury's on the bottling plant site are progressing, with completion expected in 2010.
A new Housing site at Southview Farm, Longfield started in October and Selwood are progressing their development at Prospect Place.
- 3.2 **Sports Pitch Provision** – The Town Council remains concerned at the failure to coordinate a strategy to deliver new formal sports pitches in the area. It is imperative that the Core Strategy addresses this issue. It may be appropriate to get representatives from Strategic Planning along to a future Area Board to consider this particular issue.
- 3.3 **Network Rail Route Utilisation Strategy Consultation** - The Town Council has welcomed proposals to enhance local services in the future, particularly between Bristol and West Wiltshire, Westbury to London and Westbury to Chippenham.

- 3.4 **Regional Spatial Strategy and Core Strategy** – The Town Council will be fully involved in the Core Strategy discussions during November and December.

4 Properties

- 4.1 **The Civic** – The Magic of Motown is on Saturday 7th November.
- 4.2 **Civic Centre Project** – Following receipt of planning permission, the Town Council is proceeding to RIBA Stage E – Construction Tender.
- 4.3 **Parish Steward** – The Town Council has expressed concern that despite promises there appears to be no single coordinated responsibility on Wiltshire Council for the maintenance and cleanliness of streets.
- 4.4 **Car Parking** – Wiltshire Council have not yet confirmed the anticipated date for revision of parking orders in the town.
- 4.5 **CCTV** – We are still in discussion with the Gateway and the Shires about monitoring the three cameras installed by Parkridge on Bythesea Road. We are also in discussion with Melksham Town Council about the possibility of monitoring their new cameras.

5. Partnership Working

- 5.1 **TAFF** – The Mayor took part in the official opening of the 'Silhouettes' Youth Cafe on 9th September 2009 at Stone Mill. Bluez & Zuz also re-launched there on Friday 25th September.
- 5.2 **Purple Salute** – The tree planting event, which took place on 16th October, was very successful, supported by the three civil emergency services and the Armed Forces.
- 5.3 **Remembrance Day** – Sunday 8th November 2009 - this year the service has been brought forward to 9.45am at St James' Church, followed by the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 11am, all are invited to join the events.
- 5.4 **Wiltshire Council - Declaration of Interests** – Advice from the Monitoring Officer regarding dual hatted members and award of grants at Area Board meetings given in August has now been reversed, leaving some degree of confusion, this does need to be clarified.

Delegation of Services – In September Wiltshire Council agreed a major £3.6m transfer of land and buildings to Salisbury City Council including a number of investment properties. Jane Scott, said: "We are committed to working with Salisbury City Council and the proposed handover of land and buildings will help the newly formed city council provide a wide range of local services for people in Salisbury and give it a source of sustainable income to help pay for the local services it provides." The Town Council is considering whether to ask Wiltshire Council why similar treatment is not being given to established First Tier Councils. The Area Board may also wish to consider this.

Market Towns of Wiltshire – At a meeting at County Hall on Friday 9th October town councils from across the County met senior officers of Wiltshire Council. Items

covered included – Car Parking charges, Leisure Centres, lack of Delegation, The LDF process and call in of planning applications.

5.5 **Elblag Twinning Association** – Celebrates the 10th Anniversary next year.

Meeting Dates. Council and committee meetings for the next 2 months are:

Tuesday 10 th November	Grants Panel	6.30pm
Tuesday 10 th November	Community Services	7.00pm
Tuesday 17 th November	Full Council	7.00pm
Tuesday 24 th November	Town Development	7.00pm
Tuesday 1 st December	Museum & Tourism	6.30pm
Tuesday 1 st December	Properties	7.00pm
Tuesday 15 th December	Town Development	7.00pm
Tuesday 5 th January	Town Development	7.00pm
Tuesday 12 th January	Policy & Resources	7.00pm

Trowbridge Town Council