

Title: **Whitehorse Area Action Group Update**

Report Prepared By: **Rev Paul Richardson**

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## **Background**

At the Westbury Area Seminar in January 06 Westbury Area Action Group highlighted the priorities selected for implementation the Westbury Area Community Plan. This report highlights developments in Westbury Area Action Group and the priority projects.

## **Update**

### **1 Merger of Westbury Area Action Group and Westbury & District Community Development Trust :**

In February this year Westbury and District Community Development Trust merged with Westbury Area Action Group, and now operate as **WHITEHORSE AREA ACTION GROUP** (W.A.A.G) The Westbury Community Area (Community) Partnership (a partnership of statutory, business and commercial, voluntary and community organisations working together to improve Community life), for the following reasons:

- WAAG was moving from a planning to an implementation phase and required an organisation that is accountable and holds funds etc. The Trust already managed WAAG's funds.
- There was a huge overlap in people on both organisations and the aims of those organisations, which has resource implications as well as the ability to cause confusion publicly
- As projects develop, there would inevitably be an increase in financial responsibility. The Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee which gives members protection by limiting their personal liability to £1.

### **2 Support for WAAG and its projects:**

WAAG has secured admin support and a project development worker. The project development worker is a joint post with the town council to help move projects forward.

### **3 WAAG Priorities:**

- **Vision for Westbury** – being implemented through the Town Council's Five Towns Initiative. There is a focus on the Market Place. The District, Town and County Council are working on a design brief for the Market Place.
- **Whitehorse Area Website** – the website is currently under construction. WAAG projects are having individual sites, in order to spread the load of editing the information and keeping them up to date.

- **Whitehorse Area Health for All project**  
Postponed until the outcome of the PCT Pathways for Change process is finalised.
- **Support to Young People in the Westbury Area** - Young People's Fayre has been postponed to the autumn as many of the people likely to be involved in the event are currently involved in the Youth Action 4 Summer, which WAAG is supporting. An extensive programme of activities has been arranged for the summer holidays for children and young people.
- **Whitehorse Area Community Safety Group** – Whitehorse Area Community Safety Group has been established, complete with terms of reference. The Group is supporting the town council which is taking the lead on an Alcohol Action Plan which has arisen out of a failed Alcohol Exclusion Zone bid. The group has invited the parishes to contribute to the plan to make it an area-wide plan.
- **Whitehorse Area Tourism** – No progress to date.

WAAG would welcome more involvement in the priority areas to help develop and implement the project ideas.

#### References:

Westbury Community Area Plan

Rev Paul Richardson, Whitehorse Area Action Group  
23<sup>rd</sup> June 2006

