

Western Area Committee

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REPORT

COMMUNITY PLAN FOR NADDER VALLEY COMMUNITY AREA

Report Summary

To present the final draft of the community plan for the Nadder Valley community area (Tisbury and surrounding area) following amendments. The Western Area Committee is invited to make any final comments prior to the adoption of the plans by Cabinet and to discuss how it can assist in taking forward the priorities identified in the plan.

I. Background

Salisbury District Council has a statutory duty to prepare a Community Strategy for the district, which will form part of its statutory Policy Framework. The previous generation of community plans have now reached the end of their life.

In June 2003, Cabinet agreed that six community plans would be developed at a community area level and that a district-wide community strategy would subsequently be developed. These will cover the period 2004-09. The community strategy will capture issues that are common to all areas and will contribute the South Wiltshire perspective to the county-wide community strategy. This work is being done with key partners through the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance.

Current Position

All the community plans for 2004-2009 have been considered at Area Committee meetings over the last six months. The Nadder Valley plan was considered by the Western Area Committee at its October meeting. Since then, a number of changes have been made, in particular in response to comments from Tisbury Parish Council. Cabinet adopted the community plans for the City, Four Rivers (Wilton), Stonehenge (Northern Area), and Mere community areas at its meeting in December 2004. A revised timetable for the completion of the Southern Area Plan has been agreed with representatives of the Southern Area Committee and the revised plan will be considered in March.

The Board of the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance considered all the plans at its meeting on 23rd November 2004. At that meeting the Board did not approve the Nadder Valley Community Plan (Tisbury and surrounding area) following late comments being received from Tisbury Parish Council. This plan is therefore being re-submitted to the Alliance Board before being submitted to the Cabinet for approval at its meeting on 19 January 2005.

There are six plans for South Wiltshire, one for each community area. Each plan summarises the main issues for the area which have been identified by consultation with local people. The plan also sets out what is being done to address these issues and what action will be taken over the next five years.

2. Recommendations

- (1) That the Cabinet approve the community area plan for the Nadder Valley community area;
- (2) That the priorities of the area community plan are reflected in the district's portfolio plans and the corporate plan;
- (3) That the district-wide community strategy be submitted to the Cabinet following approval by the Alliance Board, prior to being adopted by full council as a policy framework document.

4. Background Papers:

- The community plan is attached.
- A summary report of Salisbury District Council actions contained within all plans.
- Cabinet report, 15 December 2004 – Community plans
- Area committee report, April/May 2004 - Community Area Plans & Local Plan Activity.
- Area committee report, November 2003 - Community Leadership: The Way Forward.
- Cabinet report, 25 June 2003 – Community Planning update.

5. Implications:

- **Financial** : None.
- **Legal** : Required to have a Community Strategy.
- **Personnel** : None.
- **Community Safety** : Integral part of the process.
- **Council's Core Values** : Communication with the public.
- **Ward(s) Affected**: All in Nadder Valley Area.
- **Consultation Undertaken**: On-going and extensive public consultation is carried out as part of the community planning process. Area committees.

Our Community Plan 2004-2009

June 2004 -

June 2009

Nadder Valley Community Area

Alvediston, Berwick St John, Berwick St Leonard, Chicklade,
Chilmark, Donhead St Andrew, Donhead St Mary, Fonthill Bishop,
Fonthill Gifford, Fovant, Hindon, Swallowcliffe, Sutton Mandeville,
Tisbury, Tollard Royal, West Tisbury

Our community, Our vision

The South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance is a partnership of the public, private, voluntary and community sectors in Salisbury and South Wiltshire.

Its mission is to work together to create 'a safe and caring place, where it is easy to get about and where value for money services contribute to a high quality of life and environment, with equality of opportunity for all'.

The following strategic priorities have been adopted for 2004 – 2009:

- \ Access to services (including rural transport)
- \ Affordable housing
- \ Crime and anti-social behaviour
- \ Alliance partners as exemplary employers (healthy workforce, green organisations, basic skills for all employees)

South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance partners

Churches Together

\ Council for Voluntary Service

\ Environment Agency

\ Government Office for the South West

\ Learning and Skills Council (Wiltshire & Swindon)

\ Salisbury College

\ Salisbury District Council

\ Salisbury Health Care NHS Trust

\ South Wiltshire Action against Poverty

\ South Wiltshire Economic Partnership

\ South Wiltshire Primary Care Trust

\ The Army

\ Wiltshire Association of Local Councils

\ Wiltshire Constabulary

\ Wiltshire County Council

\ Wiltshire Fire Brigade

\ Wiltshire Racial Equality Council

\ Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

www.southwilts.com/site/swsa

What is **community planning**?

Community planning is a means of involving local people, of all ages, in decisions about the future of their communities. These plans set out local priorities, actions proposed by the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance partners and areas that require further work in the future. As a result of consultation within the Community area, People's Voice surveys and questionnaires, this document will allow people to influence service delivery and improvement. This will encompass the Themes in the 'Wiltshire Community Strategy':

- \ Social Care and Health
- \ Countryside and Land Based Issues
- \ Housing and the Built Environment
- \ The Wiltshire Economy
- \ Transport
- \ Crime and Community Protection
- \ Educations, Skills and Learning
- \ Culture
- \ Better Access To Services.

What is the **Nadder Valley Community Plan**?

Originally known as the 'Tisbury Community Plan', which was published in 1999, the Nadder Valley and District Community Plan includes all the parishes listed on the front cover.

Community profile

Tisbury village is the result of Victorian expansion once the railway had arrived. It supplanted nearby Hindon, a medieval town, as the minor administrative centre for the Vale of Wardour.

None of the other villages is particularly large, and because of the varying geology there is no stereotype. The Donheads are diffuse,

Chicklade lines a main road, Hindon has been artificially planned. The pull of Salisbury is

felt as one moves eastward through this area although, for immediate needs, many residents turn to neighbouring small towns in Dorset or Somerset – Shaftesbury, Gillingham, or Wincanton.

Although the area's population is small, a relatively high rate of inward migration is forecast. A slightly higher than average proportion of the workforce has qualifications. Car ownership and long-distance commuting are also above average.

Cranbourne Chase & West Wilts Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) covers the entire Community Area. In 2002, there were 1,588 jobs in the area, for a total population of 7,252. The population is older than average, with 25.4% over the age of 65 (national average is 15.9%). 19.7% of the population is under 16 years of age (national average is 20.1%).

3% of homes are holiday homes, the highest proportion in the county. 66.5% of homes are owner-occupied and 33.5% of households live in rented accommodation. 18% of households are lived in by a lone elderly person. 9.3% of households do not have heating in the whole house, with fuel poverty being a particular issue in the Fonthill ward (in the top 40% of wards where more than one fifth of income is spent on heating). Tisbury is poorly served with tourist accommodation, especially B&B bedspaces.

This area is a very safe place to live. During the period April 2002-March 2003, the community area had the lowest crime rates per person in the county, with just 17 burglaries, 22 vehicle crimes and 39 violent crimes in the year.

Tisbury has a rail station on the Exeter to Salisbury line. It provides both local services and a direct service to London Waterloo in under 2hrs.

Only 12% of households do not have access to a car, but these households are isolated because nowhere in the surrounding area has an hourly bus and several settlements are served by buses that run less than daily. The bus network is poor and will make car ownership a necessity rather than a luxury.

There are just two A-roads passing through the area – the A303 running east-west and the A30 Salisbury-Shaftesbury road. There is then one B-road,

the remainder are lesser roads. Although Tisbury is close to several towns, the nature of the road network is such that the village is still fairly remote.

There are six primary schools in the area, two independent schools and no secondary schools. The community area is affluent overall, but there are significant pockets of deprivation. The Sunshine Healthy Living Project, established in 2003, aims to address issues of social exclusion in the area. The Citizen's Advice Bureau holds a monthly outreach service in Tisbury surgery which helps clients with a range of issues, including debt advice and benefit take-up.

How this **plan** was put together

During the summer of 2003, the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance distributed a Community Questionnaire to all 49,000 Households in the district. 37% were returned, of which 1,390 were from the Nadder Valley district. The results from the questionnaire showed your priorities across the area and these were:

1. Looking after the roads
2. \ Houses local people can afford
3. \ Looking after the environment
4. \ Public transport
5. \ Reducing Crime
6. \ Protecting local facilities

People also wrote comments about the specific issues under those headings that were causing concern. In addition we have information from previous community planning workshops held in 1999 and 2001, a panel of local residents known as 'The Peoples Voice' and from a panel of young people known as 'Tomorrows Voice'.

All this data, in conjunction with views and

opinions of Parish Council, District and County Councillors and community groups, has been brought together to form 'Your Community Plan'.

The purpose of this plan is to publish the results of what local people would like to see in their communities but also, more importantly, the plan will help influence partner organisations of the Alliance to address priorities in your area.

The plan will directly affect policy making and strategic planning. It will also help community groups by showing what is being achieved and how partner organisations can support this. We recognise in every parish there are volunteers working on projects, giving up their time to make a difference in their community. Some of the projects highlighted in this plan will need to be taken forward by you, the community.

Publication of the plan is not completion of the consultation process. Work will need to continue around specific target groups, topics and geographical areas as necessary especially as we recognize that we have not fully addressed the needs of less accessible groups. This work will be taken forward by South Wiltshire Action Against Poverty.

In addition to the community plans, local Parish Plans are currently being discussed in a number of areas including, (Chitterne, Donhead St Mary, Hindon). These will influence the future development of local strategies and policies.

The following tables list Community Priorities and Actions. Each priority has been raised by local residents and community groups and the actions provide details of existing or proposed projects to help resolve the priorities.

Social Care & Health

Rural populations require efficient, readily available, social and health care services.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access for all, especially disabled and older people to improve and maintain their independence. • Promote healthy living practices through food and exercise. • Establish lines of communication to link services. • Improve local GP services and 24 hour cover • Access to NHS dentist in community area • Family Centre in Tisbury to provide front line Health and Social Security Services. • Realising the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance vision of equality for all. 	<p>The Hospital Alternatives Team (HAT) working with District Nurses focuses on the needs of older people. The team seeks alternatives to hospital admission in order to avoid inappropriate use of acute hospital beds, a prolonged and unnecessary stay in hospital or an inappropriate admission to long term residential or nursing care.</p> <p>Wiltshire Health Promotion Service encourages healthy eating and physical activity – on-going rolling programme of work.</p> <p>Healthy Living and Sunshine Project has improved basic rural facilities with new out reach services which have encouraged healthier lifestyles, reduced social isolation and increased access to advice on health. Projects in 2004/05 with the Sunshine Healthy Living project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community garden in Tisbury • Healthy cooking courses • Employment support for people with mental health issues • Supported local access to IT • Project web site <p>The Expert Patient programme: Designed to allow long term patients to manage their own healthcare (courses available in the community area on demand).</p> <p>The South Wiltshire Primary Care Turst (PCT) has submitted a bid (2004) for a new health facility in Tisbury. The PCT is taking over responsibility for Dentistry in 2005. As</p>

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
	<p>part of this new responsibility, it will seek to improve access to NHS dental care in Tisbury as a high priority. Quality of NHS dental care will also be improved. A new out of hours service was introduced by the PCT in 2004 which aims to improve coverage for the area.</p> <p>South Wiltshire Action Against Poverty to identify social exclusion and poverty in our community and put in place measures to address them.</p>

Countryside and Land-based Issues

As part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Nadder Valley can provide healthy sustainable employment in a rural environment.

Community Priorities	Actions – what's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in conjunction with the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan • Encourage diversification of redundant buildings • Promote waste minimisation and renewable energy (42% of Tisbury residents in favour of Biomass production for renewable energy – People's Voice Survey 2004) • Efficient removal of abandoned vehicles. • Encourage renewable energy schemes and energy efficiency. • The impact of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act on footpaths and public access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AONB Partnership Forum are implementing a management plan for the area. One long-term community wildlife project to be identified by the community, with support from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to implement the project. • Local Plan already allows for the conversion of rural buildings to community uses, employment and subject to certain criteria, residential use. • Salisbury District Council and its partners, the Wiltshire Waste Partnership (WWP), are working jointly to achieve the 31% recycling target by 2010. SDC, WWP and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust are actively working together to promote home composting. A community composting site will be set up by the end of 2005. The "Re-think Rubbish" Directory lists a number of outlets and businesses that will re-use or recycle different materials.

Community Priorities	Actions – what’s in store?
	A new contract was agreed in 2003 for more efficient removal of abandoned vehicles.

Housing and the Built Environment

Although the number of people employed on the land has fallen, diversification, increased mobility and a desire to live in the country has created the need for more housing.

Community Priorities	Actions: What’s in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the character of the rural landscape • Affordable housing. • Concern of the impact of future developments. • Promote energy efficiency in the home – 46% of Tisbury residents would improve energy efficiency in their homes (according to People’s Voice survey (2004)) • Development of redundant sites such as RAF Chilmark and the Parmiter site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the development of parish plans and Village Design Statements in as many parishes as possible. These plans will strengthen each community’s position when planning applications are determined. • The Salisbury District Local Plan seeks to achieve a minimum of 25% affordable homes on all major housing developments. Planning policies will now seek higher proportions of affordable housing, based on demonstrated local needs. Aim to achieve up to 40% contribution from developers on qualifying sites (target to achieve at least 25 new affordable homes by 2011). The local plan also contains a policy which enables communities to promote rural exception housing sites for local needs housing. • Free energy efficiency advice is available from 0800 512012. • Strategic Sites Register is taking forward consultation on redundant sites for redevelopment, which includes RAF Chilmark.

The Wiltshire Economy

A rural Community relies on local service and retail provisions to develop and maintain employment opportunities.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain specific services, especially post offices and local pubs. Tisbury High Street needs protection and enhancing. • Encourage use of local produce, eg through Farmers Markets • Encourage schemes that provide access to learning and employment. • Support the agricultural economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local communities to set up action groups to address this where appropriate. • In 2005/06, the District Council will investigate means to strengthen its policy to address the continuing decline of shops and services in rural areas and local centres such as Tisbury. Salisbury District Council currently provides up to 100% relief on business rates to General Stores, Post Offices, Public Houses and Petrol Filling Stations in rural settlements where the population is less than 3000 and certain criteria are met. • Salisbury Food and Drink Festival promoting local produce – first one held September 2004. Due to become an annual event. • Moped Access Project – provides opportunity to secure employment or further education • Maintain agricultural practices but also help promote and develop alternative enterprises – DEFRA, AONB.

Transport

Rural transport facilities should be flexible according to the needs of the local population.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<p>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce community transport linked to public and private sectors to reduce traffic and improve efficiency – especially hospital transport links. • Maintain South West 	<p>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tisbus, LINK schemes and Salisbury District Community Transport all currently operate in the area. • WCC to work with the Wiltshire Rural Transport Partnership to develop more community/voluntary

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<p>trains level of service and increase coaches on overcrowded trains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better integrated transport – eg need a bus from Salisbury station to Salisbury District Hospital. <p>ROADS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of residents in the area are dissatisfied with road maintenance - the highest level of dissatisfaction in the County. • The area has poor access routes from the east and south, with narrow roads experiencing regular overrun of verges by traffic. The area has seen a significant increase in the population and this has caused further strain on the road network. • Traffic calming schemes, speed limits and signs – as long as these are in keeping with rural landscape in the AONB. • Improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists – especially in the light of new major housing developments. • Improved street lighting on crossroads and footpaths, possibly linked to renewable energy scheme – solar power. 	<p>transport where existing services are not meeting needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish meetings in early 2005 to assess starting a good neighbour Link Scheme in the Tisbury area. <p>ROADS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court Street, Hindon Lane and Tisbury Row were resurfaced in 2004. An extensive part of the local road network is receiving repairs, followed by resurfacing in 2004/05, with particular attention being focussed on the south and western approaches to Tisbury, the communities in the two Donhead Parishes and the west end of the Chalke Valley. • Traffic management issues to be discussed further as part of the Local Transport Plan consultation in 2004/05 – taking account of road access constraints. • Wiltshire County Council does not allocate funding for enhancement to street lighting. However, the upgrading of street lighting is generally included in traffic schemes.

Crime and Community Protection

Although Wiltshire is one of the safest counties in the country, crime and anti-social behaviour are still a concern within the community

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage involvement in Community Safety and Watch schemes • Regular communication with the police. • Support and develop youth activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety Partnership – Rural and Neighbourhood Watch Schemes on-going • 'Call a Friend Scheme' soon to be introduced to the community and surrounding district. • New civilian appointment for the police to staff the enquiry office to allow for continued police presence on the streets. • 35% of Tisbury residents communicate directly with their local police station regarding the activities of the Wiltshire Police Force. • Salisbury Domestic Violence Forum to raise awareness of domestic violence in rural areas as an important issue and hidden crime. <p>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tisbury Youth Development Service provides 3 sessions weekly of youth work provision and there are plans to extend the opening. • Continue the Leisure Credit Scheme – rewarding young people for voluntary work in the community.

Education, Skills and Learning

In a changing rural community we need to provide employment for traditional crafts and new technology.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise existing facilities, such as schools or village halls to provide learning opportunities for groups of all ages and abilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Wiltshire Learning Partnership, in conjunction with Learning Skills Council, to identify education needs for the area and develop strategic options.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish links with 'hard to reach groups' to develop personal skills. • Promote the use of the internet and the building of personal, organisation and community web sites • Increase publicity of learning programmes through the local media, Vale FM, Blackmoor Vale and Parish magazines. • Concerns about closure of Nadder Middle School • The need for a Tisbury pre-school facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Youth Development service aims to work with 5% of the 13-19 population not in education or employment, or 'at risk' through drug use, crime or teenage pregnancy. • Youth Development centre temporarily relocated to the old Magistrates Court, Tisbury, prior to building new facilities. • Provide a young person's public access terminal based in the youth development centre. • In November 2004, Wiltshire County Council agreed to sell the main building at Nadder Middle school to Thistledown school and to sell or lease the school hall to a Charitable trust formed by the community on terms to be agreed. • Encourage consultation on the needs for pre-school requirements.

Culture

A community can be brought together through cultural activities, from carnivals to local societies.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise the mobile library and assess how to increase the services it could offer. • Listen to the local community about their ideas for recreation, leisure, sports and the arts (What will the future of Tisbury swimming pool and sports centre be after Nadder Middle School closure) • Work in partnership with other communities who are seeking similar facilities to improve funding opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a library in Tisbury and mobile services are not usually provided within a 2 mile proximity. Need to assess demand for a mobile plus stop in the hinterlands of Tisbury. Local community to identify where such a stop would best be sited. • Donhead St Mary children's leisure facilities under review. • Wiltshire Youth Arts Partnership provides access to creative opportunities for young people aged 13-21 years. • Wiltshire Alternative Youth Sports Partnership develops alternative sports opportunities for young people.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research innovative projects to provide leisure and cultural activities for children and young people, such as music festivals. • Future of Youth Club in Tisbury. • Utilise Village Halls and schools more efficiently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCC assessing option for youth club relocation. • AONB Community grant fund to be available for specific community projects. • In 2006, SDC will decide whether to transfer all of its sports and leisure facilities including Tisbury to a charitable trust. With the changes in local schools provision, SDC will again review the level of sports provision and consult with local users on any proposed changes. Community ownership in some form may be a long term possibility. • WCC is looking at options for relocation of the Youth Centre, including the potential of the old Court Room as a youth venue. • The Extended Schools Programme utilises school buildings beyond the school day.

Better Access to Services

Efficient lines of communication can improve information transfer so people can see that their opinions have been acknowledged.

Community Priorities	Actions: What's in store?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a list of contact numbers for services and organisations.• Increase awareness of Internet facilities.• Publicise events on the Internet.• Broadband facilities in rural districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A list of contact numbers is provided at the back of this plan.• www.southwilts.com - useful links and advice on developing community web sites.• All exchanges in the area are being upgraded to enable access to broadband.

Useful contacts

For further information on the community plan or to discuss your involvement in potential projects please contact your Nadder Valley community planner:

C/o The Partnership Team Manager
South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance
The Council House
Bourne Hill
Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

Email: swsa@salisbury.gov.uk

or look at the SWSA website at:
www.southwilts.com/site/swsa

This booklet is available in large print from the address above.

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\\ Salisbury District Council –
01722 336272
\\ Wiltshire County Council –
01225 713000
\\ Tisbury Police Station – 01747 870203
\\ Salisbury District Hospital –
01722 336262
\\ NHS Direct – 0845 46 47
\\ Citizens Advice Bureau – 01722 327222
\\ Clarence (Roads and Pavements) –
0800 232323
\\ Sunshine & Healthy Living –
01722 415600
\\ SW Primary Care Trust – 01722 341319
\\ Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – 01380 725670
\\ National Rail Information –
08457 484950
\\ Tisbus –01747 870203
\\ Gas Leaks – 0800 111999
\\ Wessex Water – 0845 6004600
\\ Southern Electric – 08457 708090
\\ Tisbury & District Sports Centre –
01747 871141
Energy Efficiency Helpline 0800 512012
Wiltshire and Swindon Domestic Violence Intervention Partnership 01225
709493
Wiltshire Fire Brigade – Community Safety:01722 439300