

MINUTES

Meeting: MELKSHAM AREA BOARD
Place: Canberra Children and Young People's Hub, 56 Spa Road, Melksham
Date: 13 July 2017
Start Time: 5.00 pm
Finish Time: 5.55 pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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

In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Hayley Spencer, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr Roy While,
Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Phil Alford

Wiltshire Council Officers

Rhys Schell – Community Engagement Manager
Kevin Fielding – Democratic Services Officer
Emma Drage – Local Youth Facilitator

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
16	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome, Introduction and Announcements</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman outlined a statement from Cllr John Thomson - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband, Wiltshire Council re the Melksham Campus project. <i>(A copy of the statement is attached).</i></p>
<u>JT Campus statement</u>	
17	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were none.</p>
18	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Agenda item no.4 – Grant Funding</p> <p>Melksham card reader – Young Melksham – Cllr Hubbard (Chairman of Young Melksham).</p> <p>St Georges School - replacement of chain linked fence for natural Hedge – Seend Primary School – Cllr Seed (Former school governor).</p>
19	<p><u>Grant Funding</u></p> <p>The Area Board members are asked to consider five applications to the Community Area Grants scheme:</p> <p>Decision Melksham Adventure Centre awarded £1,955 for Melksham Adventure Centre. <i>Note: Cllr Hubbard abstained from the vote.</i></p> <p>Decision Whitley Reading Rooms awarded £1,040 for Storage improvement and safety.</p> <p>Decision Young Melksham awarded £876.09 for Membership Card Printer. <i>Note: Cllr Seed in the chair for this application and Cllr Hubbard abstained from the vote.</i></p>

	<p>Decision Back On Track - Stroke Rehab Service awarded £925 for Stroke Rehabilitation Equipment.</p> <p>Decision Seend Church of England aided Primary School Parents Social Committee awarded £250 for St Georges School - replacement of chain linked fence for natural Hedge.</p> <p>Youth Grant Funding</p> <p>Decision Steeple Ashton Guides and Senior Section Activity Weekend awarded £560.</p> <p>Decision Youth adventure trust awarded £2,286.</p> <p><i>Youth Funding Procurement of PAYP providers</i> Decision Community area youth activities of sports, youth work, sign posting advice and guidance awarded £4,600.</p>
20	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group</u></p> <p>Cllr Roy While outlined the Community Area Transport Group Funding recommendations made by the Community Area Transport Group at it's meeting held on 13 June 2017.</p> <p>Decision Melksham Riverside Drive – request to prevent vehicle access through redundant bus gate awarded £400.</p> <p>Decision Broughton Gifford – request for No through road sign at Newleaze Park awarded £ 125.</p> <p>Decision Melksham King Street and Church Street– request for 3 sets of dropped kerbs awarded £1,800.</p> <p>Decision A361 Semington Roundabout – request for safe crossing point between Little Marsh and Semington agreed. Sum of £8,800 approved, following £5,000 agreement match funding by Semington Parish Council.</p>

21	<p><u>Any Other Items of Public Concern</u></p> <p>Concerns were raised re taxi provision in Melksham town centre – agreed that Cllr Hubbard and the Community Engagement Manager would discuss this issue with taxi representatives.</p> <p>Inspector Andy Fee – Wiltshire Police was introduced as the new Sector Inspector for Melksham.</p>
22	<p><u>Close</u></p>

As the cabinet member for the campus and community hub programme, I am pleased to provide an update on the delivery of the Melksham Health and Wellbeing campus project.

Almost £9 million has been invested to deliver this project. This includes Oakfields – the home of the town’s football and rugby clubs that relocated in January this year. The new facility is extremely popular and we are working closely with both clubs to ensure their long term success, viability and development.

Work is also well underway on regenerating the Market Place, which will provide an improved entrance to the Melksham House site.

The construction of the new skate park will reach completion soon and will provide a much needed improved facility for young people. The new park was designed in conjunction with local users. Melksham has a vibrant skating community and the new skate park will host the National Skate Series in September this year.

A new cricket pavilion at Melksham House is being constructed to replace the pavilion that burnt down last year. This pavilion will serve both the cricket and tennis clubs.

In developing the plans for the Melksham House site, we have engaged with all the existing clubs based there to discuss and agree the future options.

Melksham Cricket Club stated its preference to be based at the Melksham House site and not at King George V Park. This preference was based on occupancy and maintenance of a site specifically for the club and to ensure that the pitch was not accessed or used by general public - which is the case at King George V site.

It was extremely unfortunate that following the decision to locate the cricket club on the Melksham House site, the pavilion was subject to an arson attack and destroyed. The replacement pavilion currently under construction is a smaller facility.

The club has provided its strategy for future sustainability and growth and the new facilities will be shared with Melksham Tennis Club.

A decision was made last year to remove the indoor bowls facility from the plans for the new health and wellbeing centre. This was due to concerns over its future viability and value for money. The club still has an aspiration to operate as an independent club with their own facility and we have agreed to allocate land adjacent on the site, should the club be successful in securing sufficient funding to build and run such a facility.

We totally appreciate the indoor bowls club disappointment regarding this decision and we are providing support to assist the club in seeking funding opportunities. We have agreed to allocate £150k as initial pump-prime/match funding, payable on the basis of securing the full funding to deliver the facility.

Melksham Town Council recently requested an assessment of the existing Blue Pool site to determine its potential and feasibility for the provision of an indoor bowls

facility. The assessment was discussed by the town council and following a review of the estimated costs, the town council decided not to progress this as a viable option.

We have agreed to continue to provide support, as appropriate, to assist the club to secure funding to deliver a viable facility.

Until recently we have been working with the town council to look at options for the possible re-provision of the Assembly Hall into the new health and wellbeing centre. This had included the drafting of designs and options. After careful consideration the town council has decided not to re-provide the hall as part of the scheme.

The current scheme, which is still in design, does include a number of partners, subject to final terms of agreement, including St Damian's GP surgery and Melksham Without Town Council.

The decision to invest in Melksham was agreed following a business case to cabinet in 2012, which set out the rationalisation of assets across the town to provide the new facilities.

John Thomson

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband