Stonehenge Area Board End of Year Report May 2021 - March 2023



## **Stonehenge Area Board**

Stonehenge Community Area is made up of the towns of Amesbury and Durrington along with the villages of Netheravon, Berwick St James, Bulford, Durnford, Enford, Figheldean, Fittleton cum Haxton, Great Wishford, Milston, Orcheston, Shrewton, South Newton, Stapleford, Tilshead, Wilsford cum Lake, Winterbourne Stoke and Woodford.

The Area Board is the local cabinet for Wiltshire Council for these areas, bringing local decision making into the heart of the community area. The Area Board is made up of 6 unitary councillors. The Councillors are the voting members of the board, and all those who engage in the board's work are equal members, able to influence decisions, shape and deliver on local priorities. The community has a large military population with the Bulford Camps within its boundaries and has a wide range of resources, including vibrant and active community, cultural and sporting hubs, a range of voluntary and community sector support organisations and a collaborative town and parish councils.



## **Area Board Investment**

The Area Board invests in local community projects and initiatives that meet local priorities and deliver exceptional outcomes for residents. The Area Board aims to work in partnership to achieve maximum value for its investment. They take a long term view to invest in prevention and early intervention, focusing on tackling inequalities and improving social mobility.



fundraising, grants, services in kind or volunteering



### **Local Priorities**

The Stonehenge Area Board reviewed available local data and evidence and integrated this with local knowledge and community conversation to agree the following local priority themes. The Area Board has undertaken a series of more specific local actions to positively address them, including the key achievements below:

#### Youth engagement



Stonehenge Area Board has continued to support several projects which are providing positive activities for young people. The rural youth outreach project continues to provide youth activities for young people isolated due to living in rural areas.

Several other youth organisations have been supported with grant funding including God Unlimited Outdoor Therapy, the Army Welfare Service, the Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team, Durrington Youth Services and others including sports and arts groups.

#### **Reducing our Carbon Footprint and protecting our environment**

Stonehenge Area Board has continued to improve access on footpaths, byways and other rights of way, in order to make them more accessible and increase use via the Paths4All scheme with £3,000 worth of funding allocated to improve the network across several projects.



It continues to encourage grant applications for improvements to infrastructure such as the new heating system at Figheldean Village Hall. The AB is planning an environment/climate change themed event later in 2023

#### Improving the health and wellbeing of our community



The health and wellbeing group has focused on supporting older and vulnerable adults by providing events that reduce social isolation and loneliness. This includes concerts both at Christmas and to mark the Coronation of King Charles III, as well as regular coffee mornings.

The group has also supported various groups and projects aimed at improving Health and Wellbeing of older and vulnerable adults such as, Silver Amesbury, Celebrating Age Wiltshire, Durrington and District Day Centre, the new Men's Shed group, Read Easy South West and Almost Wild Camping for the Bereaved.

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## **Community-led projects**



The Stonehenge Community Area Board has developed a strong, well established and highly functioning network of local partners, organisations and residents in the community. The Board recognises the talents, expertise and knowledge of the local community and empowers and facilitates community led action to co-deliver local services.

A shining example of the type of support and change that area boards can drive forward through community-led action is the development of the Rural Youth Outreach Project. This has included hosting numerous pop-up youth events, the last of which at Shrewton Village Hall attracted over 60 young people to attend. The group are working on developing some potential volunteers to create a sustainable youth offer in these settings.

Another example would be the work of the Celebrating Age within the community. In particular the work done alongside the Health and Wellbeing Group to host two extremely popular free concerts. These events were both sold out and the feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive – many of the older people attending really value these opportunities to get out and socialise especially at Christmas and other times of national celebration when they would otherwise feel extremely isolate.



#### Engagements

The Stonehenge Area Board works alongside other organisations to make things happen in the local community. These groups include the city council, voluntary and community groups, youth organisations, sports clubs and local charities.

The Area Board wouldn't be able to achieve what they do without these partners working on the ground with them. The Area Board hosts regular business meetings, engagement activities, events, surveys and working groups to stimulate and support local community action.



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# Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The LHFIG is a sub group of the Stonehenge Area Board, which deals specifically with highway issues. They aim to find solutions for local transport issues, such as road repairs, traffic problems, road layouts and parking.

The amount allocated is dependent on the geographical size and population for the community area and the funding allocation is for capital expenditure and can be used to provide new and improved highway infrastructure.

## **LHFIG Projects**

- Bulford Horse Warning signs
- Shrewton Upper Backway dropped kerbs
- Cholderton village gates
- Wylye 20mph Speed Limit
- Durrington Glebe Rd/School Rd signing
- Durrington 20mph speed limit
- Woodford Valley speed limit
- Amesbury London Road Bus Shelter replacement
- Shrewton London Rd Substantive Bid
- Winterbourne Stoke/Berwick St James B3083 signing/lining
- Amesbury Redworth Drive bollard
- Netheravon A345 speed limit
- Durnford speed limit
- Great Wishford village gates
- B3083 Berwick St James speed limit
- Orcheston 20mph speed limit
- Bulford dropped kerbs around double mini roundabout
- Shrewton London Road Traffic Calming Street lighting Assessment
- Shrewton, Tanners Lane lining
- Woodford, Avon Bridge warning signs
- Stoford C283 village gates
- Durrington A3028 mini roundabout road markings
- Durrington signing/bollard/road marking
- Amesbury Porton Road speed limit
- Enford East Chisenbury & Coombe 20mph speed limit
- Shrewton B3086 and B3083 additional signposts



### Wiltshire Council

# Agreeing and delivering priorities for 2023/24

By agreeing and delivering to local priorities, the Area Board is able to proactively address issues by focusing its resources and working in partnership with local organisations, volunteers and residents. To effectively select local priorities it is important that there is a regular review of the evidence available and the views of the residents are sought. To aid Councillors to agree their priorities, the list below provides some of new sources of data and evidence:

- JSNA Wiltshire Intelligence: The 2022 Wiltshire JSNA presents data on the current and future health and wellbeing needs of people in Wiltshire
- <u>Census 2021 results</u>: results from the 2021 census are being released in a phased manner, which started in June 2022
- <u>VCSE research Wessex Community Action</u>: state of the Wiltshire voluntary and community sector 2022
- <u>Annual report Wiltshire Citizens Advice</u>: Wiltshire Citizens Advice annual report 2022

As well as being evidence led, priorities should be selected where the Area Board believes it can realistically make a positive impact upon them. To aid the delivery of the chosen priorities, the Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors through the development of the Area Board local action plan.

Based on the work undertaken in 2022/23 and the new evidence available, some of the key priorities that the Board may wish to consider are as follows:

- Supporting health and wellbeing
- Supporting young people
- Getting around and improving access
- Protecting the environment and reducing carbon footprint
- Parish Engagement
- Addressing social and economic deprivation

It is recommended that for each priority selected, an area board councillor takes responsibility for overseeing its delivery and reporting back to the Area Board on progress. The Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors in undertaking this work.

