

Melksham Area Board 26th May 2010

Chairman's Announcements

Reducing Unnecessary Street Lighting in Wiltshire

Wiltshire Council has been approached by a number of communities seeking to reduce their carbon footprint, reduce light pollution of the night sky and reduce energy costs. Street lighting and illuminated signs have been identified as a major use of energy by the Council in a recent review.

A start has been made with a project to replace the lighting units in the county's 1,600 illuminated bollards with new low energy units. Dimming and turning off unnecessary lighting for part of the night have already been successfully introduced in trial sites at Urchfont and Tidworth.

The Council has set aside £5,000 for each Area Board to introduce schemes in their areas this year. The Area Board is asked to solicit interest from Town and Parish Councils and other interested parties to take part in the scheme. The Area Board will then decide on which submissions will go ahead in their area.

The Area Board is also asked to nominate an individual to act as Project Leader, to liaise with the community and resolve any issues with the public (the Project Leader should be appointed by the Board, but does not need to be a member of the Board). The Council's staff and specialists will be available to advise on technical aspects, including the viability of the proposals, and will arrange the installation of the schemes. If successful more cash will be made available for schemes next year.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the scheme, please contact Peter Binley, Highway Network Maintenance Manager, on 01225 713412 or peter.binley@wiltshire.gov.uk.