

MINUTES

Meeting: AMESBURY AREA BOARD
Place: Antrobus House, 39 Salisbury St, Amesbury SP4 7HH
Date: 31 January 2013
Start Time: 6.05 pm
Finish Time: 8.05 pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

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In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Cllr John Smale (Chairman), Cllr Graham Wright, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr John Noeken, Cllr Ian West and Cllr Fred Westmoreland (Vice Chairman)

Wiltshire Council Officers

Mark Smith, Service Director Neighbourhood Services

Town and Parish Councils

Amesbury Town Council – Roger Fisher
Durrington Town Council – David Healing, Marion Wardel and Mary Towle
Allington Parish Council – Mike Brunton
Berwick St James Parish Meeting – Neil MacDougall
Figheldean Parish Council – John Menzies
Idmiston Parish Council – Janet Tidd and Andy Tidd
Steeple Langford Parish Council – Jeremy Broad
Tilshead Parish Council – George Murray

Partners

Police – Inspector C Lange
Fire and Rescue Service – Mike Franklin

Total in attendance: 33

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Amesbury Area Board and thanked Lady Antrobus Trust for hosting the meeting.</p> <p>At the Chairman's invitation, the Councillors and officers sitting at the front of the meeting introduced themselves.</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Carol Slater, Shrewton Parish Council.</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>
4	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
5	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>a) Police and Crime Plan Consultation</p> <p>More information was available on page 9 of the agenda. Matt Bennion-Pedley from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner confirmed the Commissioner's hope of an ongoing dialogue and confirmed the consultation would be online from 18 February.</p> <p>b) Emergency Planning Exercise</p> <p>The Board noted the details of the exercise and asked that any ideas arising or lessons learnt from the recent bad weather be forwarded to Karen Linaker.</p> <p>c) Wiltshire Online</p> <p>The information available on pages 11 to 15 of the agenda was noted. It was announced that the contract had been signed with BT and a further</p>

	<p>update would be brought to the board regarding coverage and guaranteed speeds as soon as available.</p>
6	<p><u>Your Local Issues</u></p> <p>Karen Linaker, Amesbury Community Area Manager, drew attention to the online submission form available on the website. She explained that the 6 speeding issues from Berwick St James were followed up by the transport group, and noted the Berwick St James speeding group was very proactive.</p> <p>Councillor Smale provided an update on the issue of school buses not connecting to Allington. He explained officers and Councillor Richard Gamble, Portfolio Holder, were aware of the problem and currently consulting with the bus company and schools regarding timetabling. A full review of bus trips would be completed.</p>
7	<p><u>Updates from Partners and Town/Parish Councils</u></p> <p>The Chairman referred to the updates set out in the agenda and invited further updates from Town/Parish Councils and other Partners, including outside bodies. It was noted that the preferred option was for written updates, to minimise time spent during the meeting.</p> <p>NHS</p> <p>Written report noted.</p> <p>WIN</p> <p>Written report noted. Attention was drawn to the public meeting being held on Saturday 2 February 2013 which was to discuss the transition from WIN to Healthwatch Wiltshire. It was agreed that Karen Linaker would confirm how future updates would be reported to the Area Board.</p> <p>Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service</p> <p>Mike Franklin introduced the report seen on pages 21 and 22 of the agenda. He explained that the majority of fires in December had been accidental and reminded everyone about the dangers of chimney fires and highlighted that the flue from a wood / log burner needed to be swept every three months.</p> <p>He noted that the service had written to all Parish Councils offering assistance in developing their emergency plans, the service's business plan was still in development and anyone wishing to be involved in the consultation could register on the WFRS website. He announced that 35,000 reflective armbands were being handed out with 25,000 going to schools and 10,000 made available for members of the public. The public armbands could be collected during drills at fire stations.</p>

Police

Inspector Lange introduced the report seen on pages 23 to 25 of the agenda. He explained that figures had increased on previous years and confirmed that they were working hard to reduce them. He urged everyone to report stolen goods as 10 warrants issued in December had recovered stolen property which they were struggling to return to owners.

Although neighbourhood task groups had been set up for Amesbury and Durrington, there was not one for the rural areas and he questioned if the interest is there from the areas to set one up.

A community meeting held with young people had helped reduce anti-social behaviour issues however work was ongoing with families of persistent offenders to obtain acceptable behaviour agreements.

In response to questions he reported that funding was available for youth activities and Jenny Bertram, Youth Development Co-ordinator confirmed that bids were currently being worked on.

Durrington Town Council

David Healing, Durrington Town Council raised an issue over a footpath in a housing estate. It was agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged to discuss the issue.

(ACTION: Karen Linaker)

Amesbury Town Council

Councillor Roger Fisher, Amesbury Town Council raised concerns over the proposed closure of the bus station in Amesbury. Councillor Noeken explained that preliminary investigations are in progress, the results of which would be shared with the Area Board and the Town Council, and it was confirmed that the Portfolio Holder would attend the Town Council meeting on Wednesday 6 February.

Concern was raised regarding the site of a SID device on Salisbury Road, firstly being placed near a roundabout and then close to a traffic crossing. It was noted that there had been a number of inappropriate sites used and that officers were working to resolve this.

The issue of potholes causing traffic to swerve dangerously was debated and it was confirmed that extra resource and funding had been made available to try and address this.

Idminster Parish Council

It was confirmed that the warranty on surface of Winterslow Road, Porton was still valid and the delamination damage was currently under investigation.

Figheidean Parish Council

An opportunity to purchase community rooms from the MOD had arisen and they are preparing a grant bid.

Sarum Healthy Community Network

Jill Rankin introduced herself as the project manager for the community network and explained that many people currently see their GP for problems that are of a more social or life issue, which proved an expensive way to manage and showed a need to be more supported within their communities.

Surgeries could now refer people to a member of the Community Health Awareness team who would look at the most appropriate way forward and encouraged existing groups within the area to contact her to ensure that resources are meaningfully linked.

Youth Update

Jenni Bertram, Youth Development Co-ordinator explained that the Bourne Valley Youth community transport funding had not yet been spent.

It was explained that funding had originally been for a minibus however this was not a viable option, and ongoing work was looking into ways of paying for taxis to access facilities or for trips and whether funds should be allocated to parishes or held in a central pot.

A proposal to use the funding for transport by using a large taxi firm that could provide a range of vehicles with CRB checked drivers was seconded and accepted.

It was agreed that a meeting should be set up as soon as possible with the youth, to be held at an Idminster Parish Council venue, to discuss their needs.

Decision:

The Board agreed that the allocation of £3000 from the Transport budget can be used to use the services of a large taxi company with CRB checked drivers to assist the funding of transport for youth from the villages subject to sight of final plans.

(ACTION : Jenni Bertram)

8	<p><u>Updates from Community Plan Working Groups</u></p> <p>Community Facilities, Health and Well-Being</p> <p>The group will be meeting in mid February to continue its focus on improving communication between villages, support for local link schemes, and looking to tackle the challenges people face accessing healthcare</p> <p>Crime and Community Safety</p> <p>The group is focusing on Domestic Abuse as a top priority for the Amesbury Area, based on research and the backing of local police and health professionals. £3,000 has been allocated by the board to assist with this work. The Panel has commissioned a snapshot exercise to get a better picture of what the issues are and which agencies are involved. With this information, the Panel hopes to improve communication, the co-ordinated networking and visibility of all relevant agencies so that victims receive better support.</p> <p>Sport, Leisure and Culture</p> <p>The group will be meeting in February to continue its focus on improving communication of 'what's on offer', planning an event in 2013 involving all ages and as many of the sports, culture and leisure groups in the area.</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>The group is currently focusing on new Dog Fouling laws as one of its main priorities, and is inviting parishes to nominate volunteers to receive training to help them perform dog warden duties in their village. It is recommending that the board earmark funding to assist with the provision of this training locally.</p> <p>The group recently held discussion with officers regarding the council's new recycling policy and fly tipping enforcement and is continuing to review the issue of noise in towns and villages</p> <p>Housing, Economic Development, Planning and Tourism</p> <p>The group is working on identifying key players to join the panel to ensure proper representation and coverage of issues relevant to local people. A briefing note would be issued to communities regarding village design statements, and it was noted that changes to the planning system gave different weight to new plans.</p> <p>It was noted that extra resource was needed to support and develop the Community Plan working groups.</p>
9	<p><u>Update from Speeding Working Group</u></p> <p>Councillor Graham Wright gave a presentation on the work of the speeding</p>

	<p>working group and its alternative approach to improve road safety.</p> <p>He recognised the success of the CATG, highlighted the potential to make a real difference and notified the Board of a portable SID trial taking place in Durrington.</p> <p>The Board commended the work of the group and asked it to take the issue of the appalling figures from the SID count completed on the A303 up with the Highways Agency.</p>
10	<p><u>Update from the Community Area Transport Group (CATG)</u></p> <p>Councillor Mike Hewitt provided a verbal update on the work of the CATG and noted it had now spent its budget for the current year. Applications were already being taken for funding in the 2013/14 year.</p> <p>The Board congratulated the group for its achievements and asked it to keep looking at school run parking issues.</p> <p>It was agreed that CATG minutes should be circulated to all town and parish councils.</p>
11	<p><u>SID deployment programme</u></p> <p>The programme attached to the agenda at page 27 was noted.</p> <p>A request to circulate a one page document explaining the system to all parishes was noted and Tom Gardner will be consulted on this.</p>
12	<p><u>Good Neighbours</u></p> <p>Janet Tidd introduced herself as the Good Neighbours Co-ordinator for the Amesbury Rural area and explained that with her colleague Phyllis Daze they assisted older vulnerable adults stay in their homes for longer. She highlighted that people had to contact them, or ask someone to contact them.</p> <p>She confirmed the scheme had received funding for the coming year and they would be available to talk to parish councils.</p>
13	<p><u>Impact of Welfare Reform Bill</u></p> <p>A short video was shown and attention was drawn to the information seen on page 29 of the agenda.</p> <p>It was explained that the Council was working to mitigate the impact from the Bill as much as possible with customer services staff being trained on the issues involved and briefing packs detailing the implications being issued to councillors.</p> <p>In response to questions it was confirmed that those affected had been notified.</p>

14	<p><u>Training for Dog Wardens</u></p> <p>The Board was asked to earmark £3000 for the training of parish volunteers seeking to act as dog wardens in their parish.</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>The Board agreed to earmark £3000 for the training of parish volunteers seeking to act as dog wardens in their parish.</p> <p>(ACTION: Karen Linaker)</p>
15	<p><u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>At the Chairman's invitation, Councillor John Noeken, Lead member for Grants, introduced this item.</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>Amesbury Junior Football Club was awarded £1165 towards training and kit for new teams.</p> <p><i>Reason - The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2012/13 and demonstrates a link to the community plan by supporting a local youth sports club to improve and expand facilities and expertise to inspire and encourage young people to engage in sport. It will also assist a local group in ensuring there are opportunities in this area to be a healthier more inclusive community and to engage in volunteering activities.</i></p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>Berwick St James Parish Meeting was awarded £550 towards notice boards.</p> <p><i>Reason - The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2012/13 and will secure a vital source of communication for the village especially for those without email or online facilities.</i></p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>The Board agreed to allocate £3750 for community planning activities and administrative running costs.</p> <p><i>Reason - to provide the administrative support required to run the 5 community planning panels, and to provide a budget to assist with events or initiatives arising from the panel's considerations. Area Board's are permitted to allocate up to 20% of their annual grants budget for community planning purposes.</i></p>

	(ACTION: Karen Linaker)
16	<u>Future Meeting Dates, Evaluation and Close</u> It was noted that the next meeting of the Amesbury Area Board would be held on 21 February 2013 at Durrington Village Hall. The Board gave it's thanks to everyone who helped during the recent flooding. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.