

# Update for Chippenham Area Board

Update from	Christian Malford Parish Council
Date of Area Board Meeting	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2014

## Headlines

- Neighbourhood Planning

The Parish Council were updated on, what had proven to be, a successful Open Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> September at which the results of the recent questionnaire had been reported and discussed. The team will now be working on a first draft Neighbourhood Plan in readiness for further consultation with residents.

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- The (former) Mermaid Public House

The applicant also kindly attended the Neighbourhood Planning open meeting and updated those present on his long-outstanding planning application for the site. Those present were encouraged to hear that a decision on the application is likely to be made by Wiltshire Council before the end of the year.

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- Planning Application – Conversion of Barn into a single residential unit

Also informed by the recent Neighbourhood Planning questionnaire results, the Parish Council will not be opposing an application for a change of use of a barn into residential accommodation. However, the Parish Council will be looking critically at any future full planning application for the site, preferring a number of smaller units as opposed to the prospective single large house.

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- Recreation Ground Improvements

The Parish Council have moved a little closer to implementing a Recreation Ground Development Plan, which it agreed at its April 2014 meeting. Prices are currently being sought to carry out works comprising improvements to main entrance (including bridge widening and the car park), fencing and skate ramp. The scheme will be subject to a successful application for S106 monies from Wiltshire Council.

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- Allotments Project

The Parish Council agreed a plan for the proposed allotments garden that will allow for up to 16 plots on Malford Meadow. Currently the Allotmenters Group are compiling a project funding application for the Parish Council to submit to Wiltshire Council

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- Hedges

Following articles in the Parish Magazine earlier in the year, the Parish Council expressed its thanks to those residents who had maintained hedges which grow adjacent to public rights of way (roads and footpaths). However Councillors remained concerned that there were still a number of hedges in the village which had not been properly maintained and, as a result, public rights of way had become unsafe to use. In the interest of public safety, therefore, the Parish have asked residents who have a hedge that has overgrown a public right of way to take action this Autumn.

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- Marking the Centenary of the Outbreak of the Great War

This year, in addition to its annual donation to the Royal British Legion, the Parish Council will be marking the outbreak of the Great War in two further ventures: in partnership with the Primary School, fifteen small crosses will be planted on 11<sup>th</sup> November to remember those whose names appear on the village war memorial. Secondly, approval has been given to order a similar number of porcelain poppies from the Tower of London to provide a more lasting memorial.

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- The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December starting at 7:30pm in the village hall.