

Just a Minute

Bratton, Coulston, Dilton Marsh, Edington, Heywood and Westbury

Westbury Area Board

February/March 2011

Just a Minute is a summary of the official minutes for the Westbury Area Board. Formal minutes are available from Anna Thurman, Democratic Services Officer – anna.thurman@wiltshire.gov.uk or visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

Solar park proposals trigger debate at area board meeting



Proposals for a solar park on the edge of Westbury triggered angry reactions from local residents at the area board meeting on 3 February. Local company

HPH presented their initial plans (planning application not yet submitted) including artist impressions of how the solar panels would look in the local environment but people living near the proposed site on Hawkeridge Road expressed their concerns.

Not so white horse features in update on community issues

The White Horse featured among recent issues raised to the area board by concerned local people. English Heritage paint the horse on a ten yearly cycle but has recently had to paint out some graffiti hence the white band that has now appeared. Updates on other local issues include:



- Speeding on local roads – a number of metro counts are ongoing
- Community Payback – the project run by Wiltshire Probation will be tackling a number of local grot spots
- Traffic concerns at Heywood – new warning signs are about to be erected
- Westbury library – under the recent review, the library is to cut its opening hours by five and half hours. Anyone

Future of leisure services to be discussed at next area board

Key officers leading the Wiltshire Council Campus and Operational Delivery Programme will be at the next meeting of the Westbury area board to discuss the future of Westbury's leisure facilities and how the community can get involved in their future management. Leisure facilities across the county are part of the programme which looks at all council estate and services and considers the development of .community campuses which would house a range of services in one location. Come along and find out more at the area board meeting on April 7.

Youth transport scheme update

Wiltshire Council funding has helped launch a pilot transport scheme for young people living in surrounding villages. Youth worker Sally Willox told the area board meeting that the £4,000 scheme, due to start this month had been warmly welcomed by local youngsters.

Smoothie success raises cash for charity

Area board chairman David Jenkins was just one of scores of people who were served up with a



variety of healthy fruit smoothies at the area board. Young people from the Westbury youth centre have formed their own smoothie drinks business and put their hard work on show at the area board meeting in Bratton, raising £35 for Dorothy House.

Spotlight on local Speed Watch

Steve Lloyd, coordinator of the Bratton Community Speed Watch updated the meeting on their activities. He explained there are currently six volunteers working in teams of three using a speed gun which is shared between Edington and Heywood. A note is made of vehicles exceeding the limit and is passed to the police.

Policing budget cuts outlined

Councillor Ricky Rogers representing Wiltshire Police Authority gave a presentation on the Police budgets cuts in spending. The police need to make £15 million in savings over the next four years, so there is likely to be 150 fewer officers and 200 fewer staff. Everyone at the area board was invited to give their views on the proposals which can be seen at www.wiltshire.pa.gov.uk

Historic parish hall gets cash help for windows revamp

Villagers in Edington look set to benefit from plans to revamp their historic parish hall. The area board has agreed a grant of £3,250 towards the cost of doubleglazing the hall windows. The hall is used by a wide variety of local groups from pre schoolers to pensioners.

- Coulston Parish Council was awarded £105 to match fund the connection of water to village allotments.
- Dilton Marsh is set to stage a new crafts and produce show with a bit of cash help from the area board. The grant of £320 will help with set up costs including advertising and publicity.
- Westbury Town Council is to purchase projector and screen for use by the community thanks to match funding of £545.
- Plans for the Crosspoint project to provide a drop in centre in Westbury were given £1,000 toward the cost of computers and associated equipment.

The board agreed that the remaining grant funds of £7,492 should be rolled over as this meeting was the last in the current financial year.

If you would like to apply for a grant for your community project we might be able to help. Please take a look at the details of our grant scheme and criteria, fill in a form and let's see if we can help with your particular group or project. Contact your local councillor, call the community area manager for more details or visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards for information and forms that can be filled in online.

Drop in centre plans unveiled

Plans to launch a drop-in welcome centre in Westbury were unveiled at the area board. Reverends Jennifer Totney and Jonathan Burke outlined the background and progress on the Crosspoint project which has already gathered considerable local support. Currently the project is negotiating premises in the town, raising public awareness and engaging with various agencies. If you would like to know more about Crosspoint, or to offer your help please visit <http://www.crosspoint-westbury.co.uk/>

How to find out more.....

To see the full minutes and reports, and to find out about grants and how to report your local concerns visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards or contact your local councillor or your community area manager Sally Hendry on 01373 864714 or at sally.hendry@wiltshire.gov.uk

**The next area board is at
The Paragon Hall in Westbury on
Thursday 7 April 6.30 for 7pm**

**Come along and hear about the future of
local leisure facilities; protection of our
landscape and much more ...**

Contacting your councillor

Four Wiltshire Council members represent you on the community area board.



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